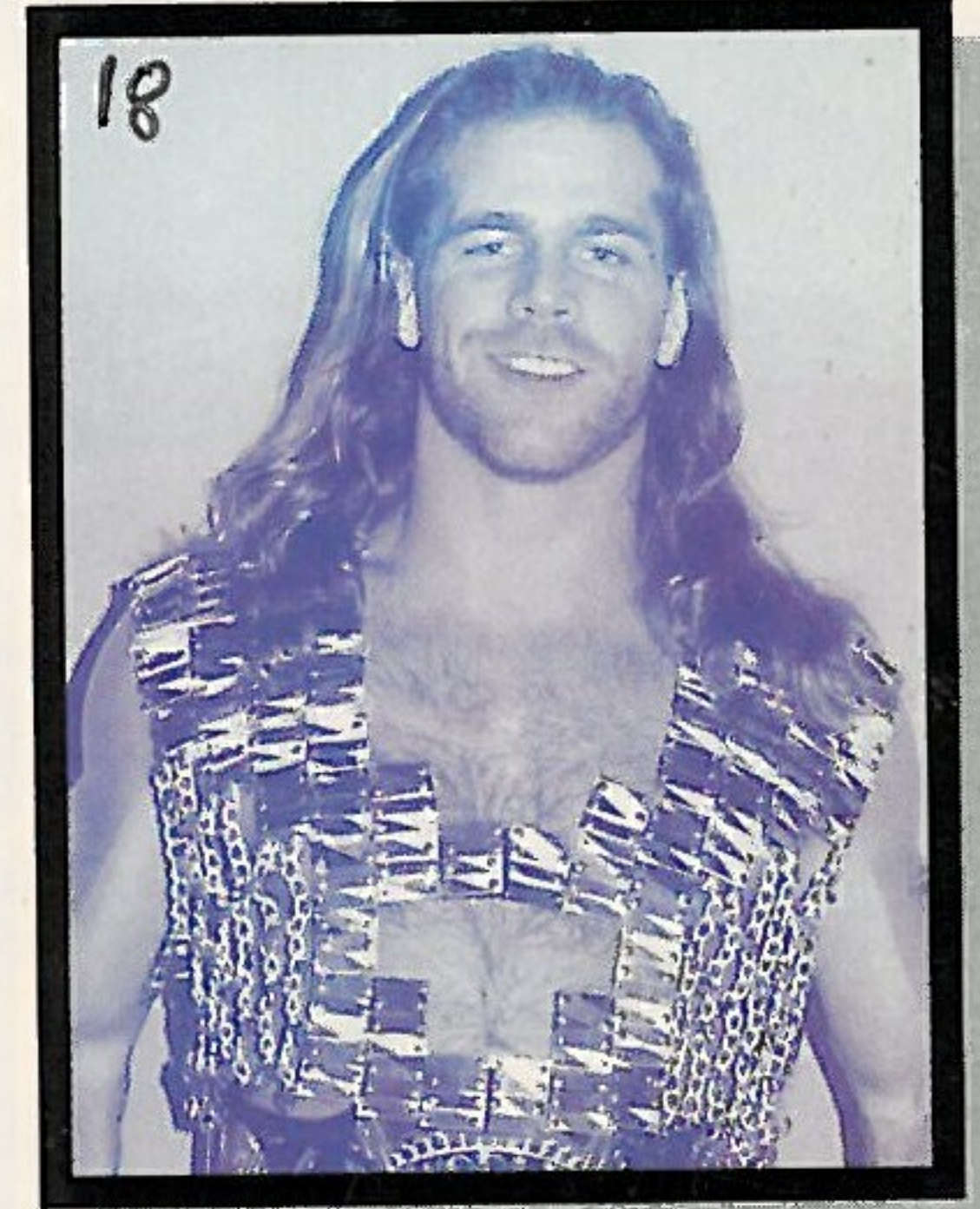
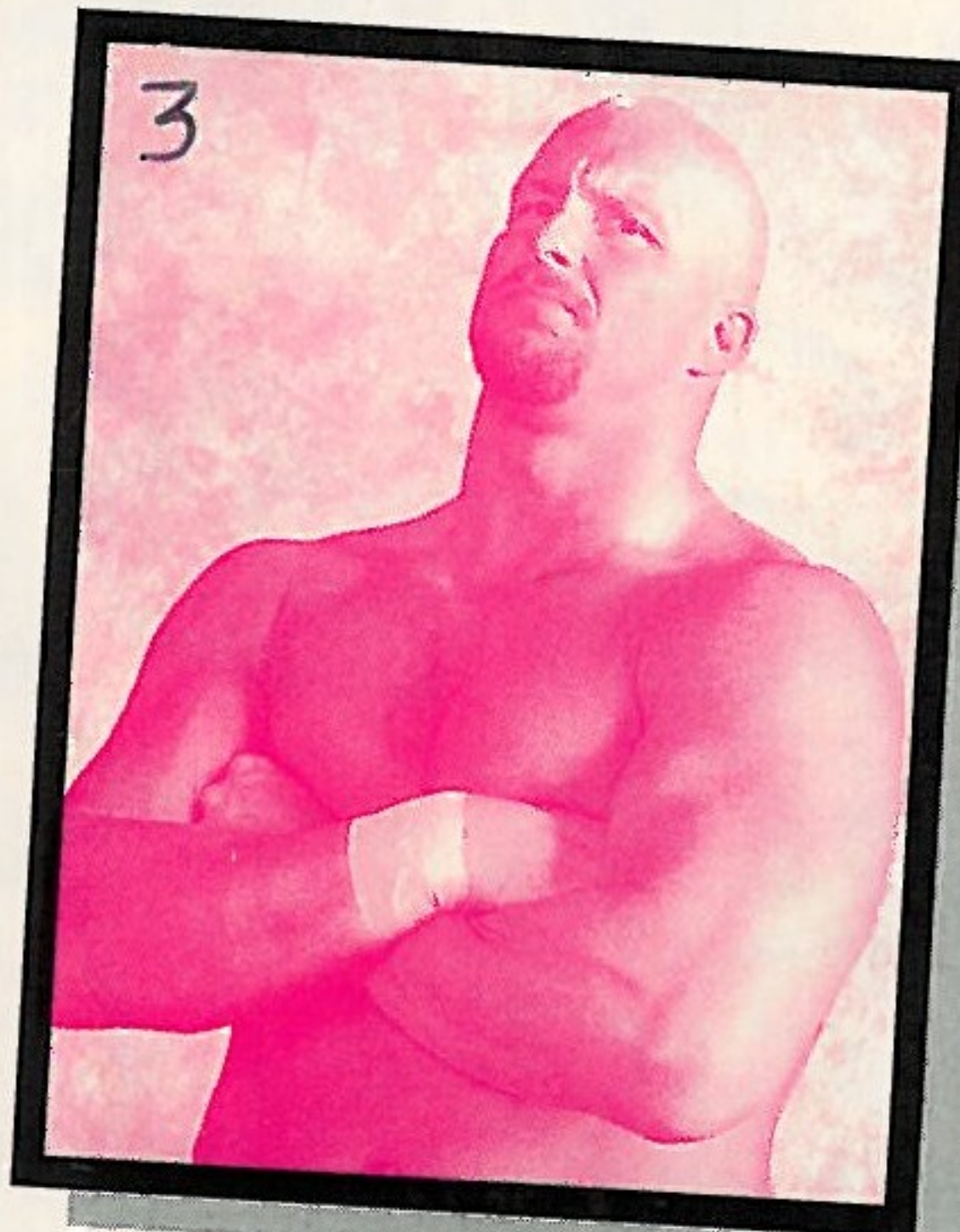
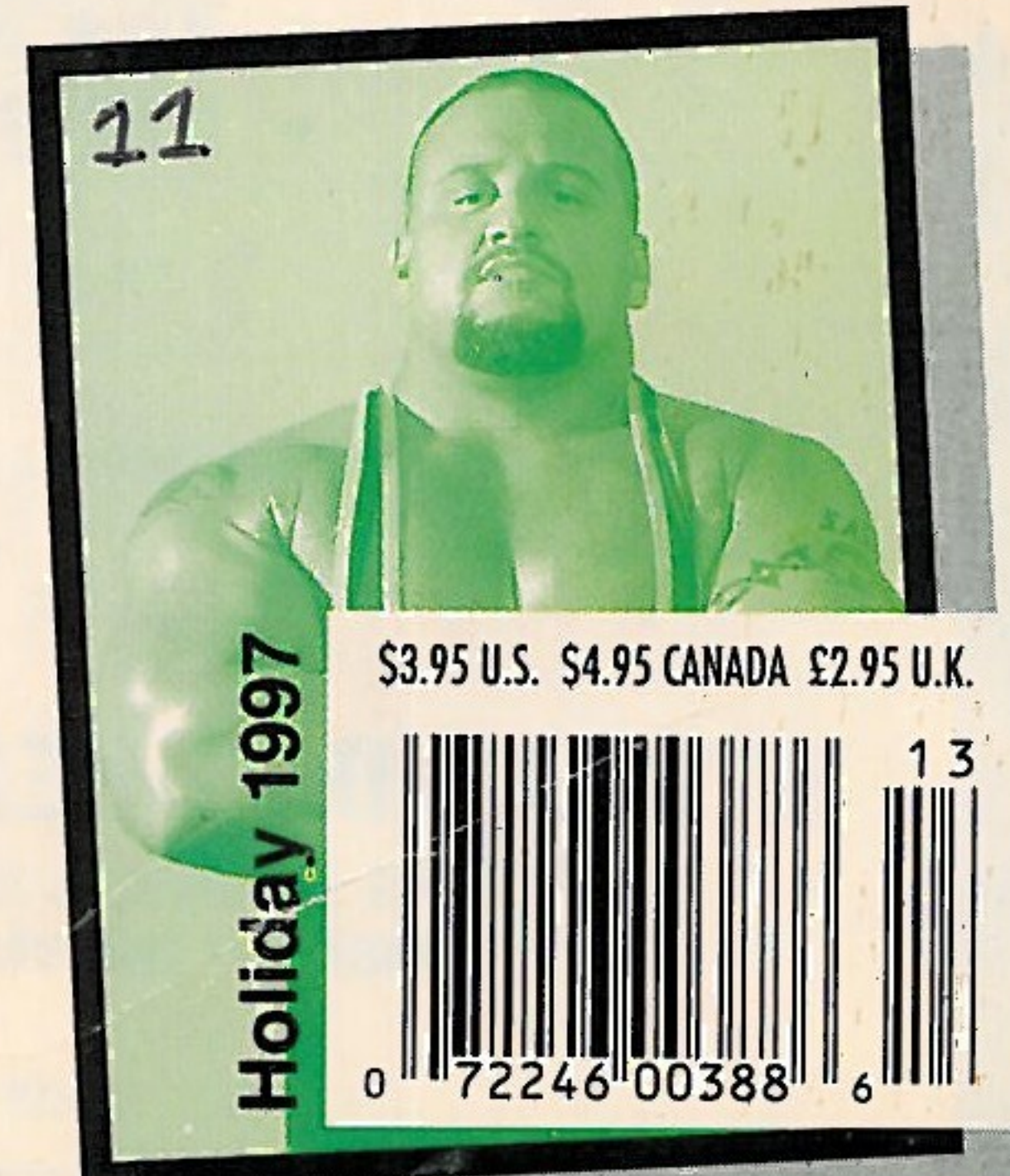
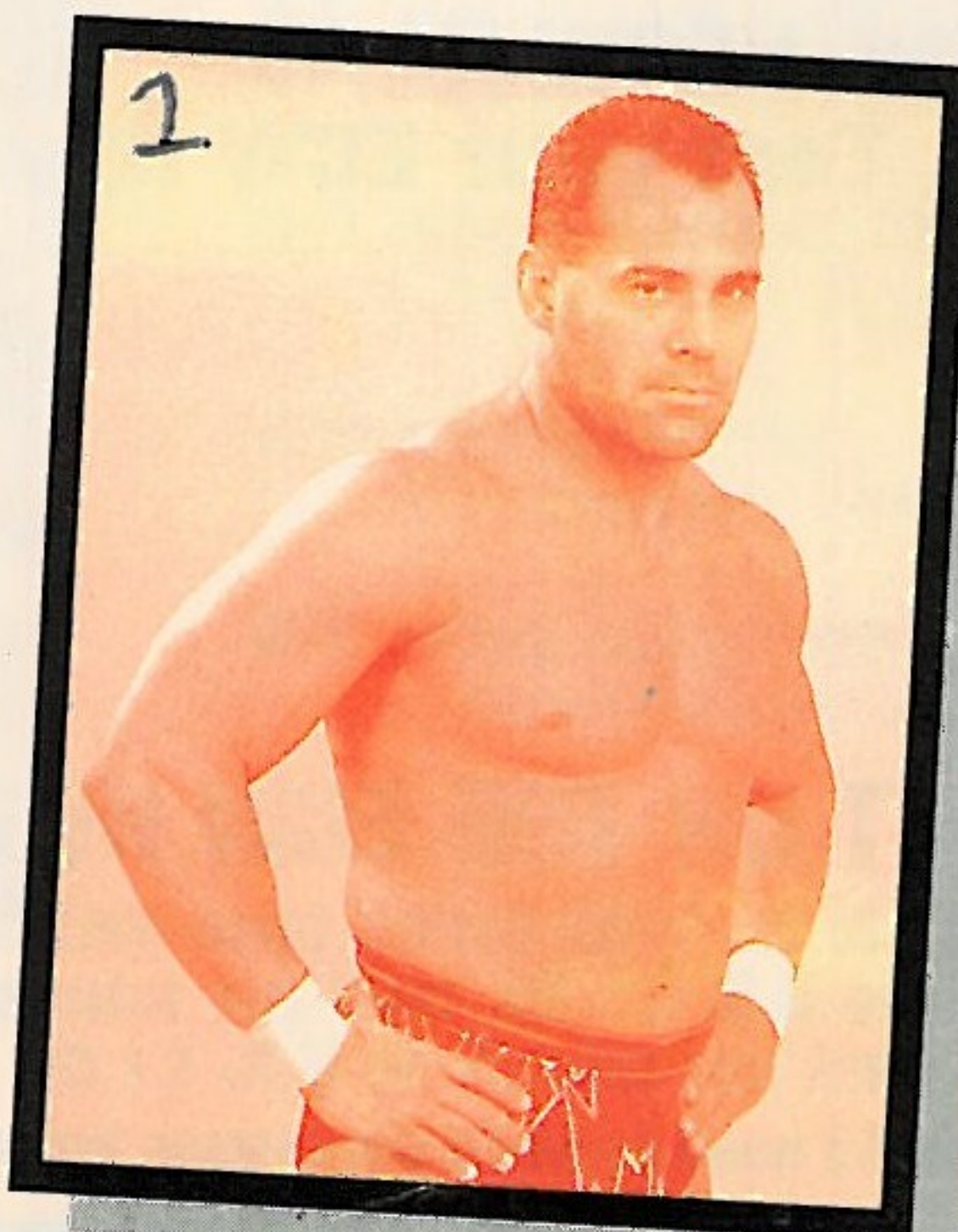
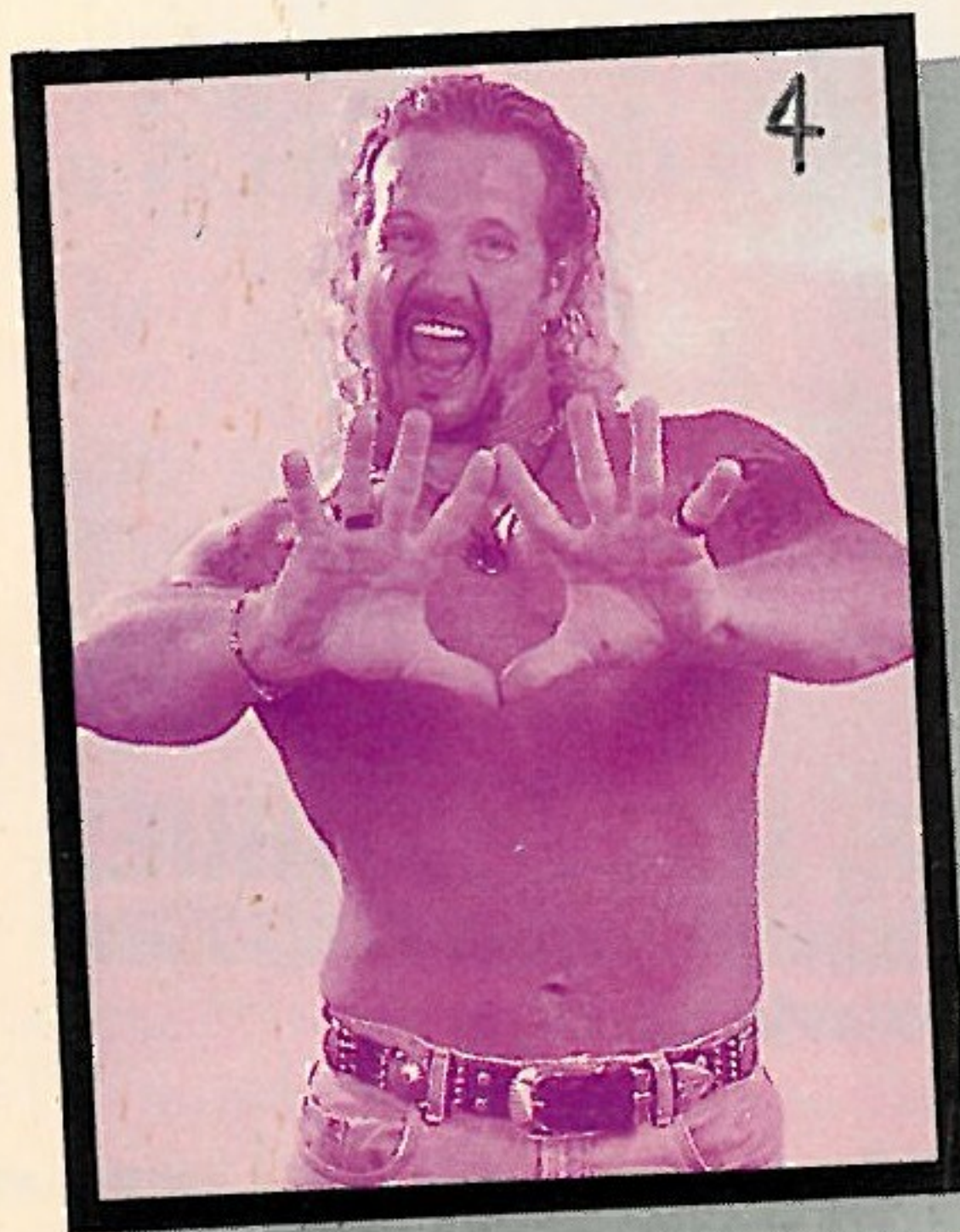
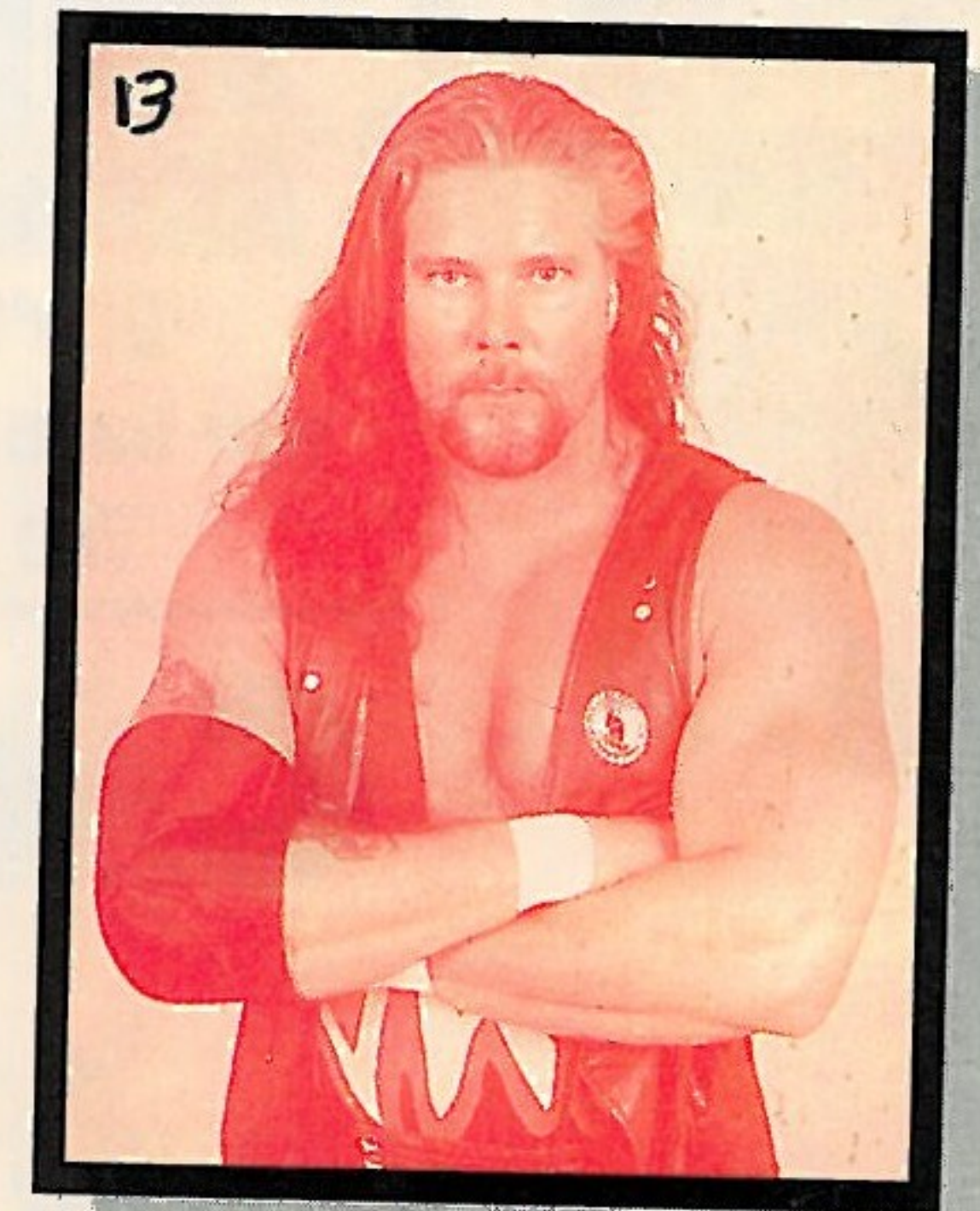


# PRO Wrestling<sup>®</sup> ILLUSTRATED



## THE PWI 500

**RANKING THE TOP 500  
STARS IN WRESTLING**



Holiday 1997

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# FROM THE DESK OF...

Stuart M. Saks

THREE OR FOUR months before production of this special edition of PRO WRESTLING ILLUSTRATED was to be started, the editors took an informal office poll, asking the question: If you had to select an early favorite to be number one in the "PWI 500," who would it be? Most of us could not come back with a quick answer.

Those who did were talked out of it very easily.

Finally, we all agreed: Let's not even think about it until we have to.

Well, folks, it didn't get any easier when the time came.

For the first time since we began compiling the annual "PWI 500" in 1991, there really wasn't a clear-cut choice for the number-one position. Sure, there was your usual collection of fine wrestlers, some of whom were no less talented than they were when being chosen number one in previous years. But there was always seemed to a "yeah, but ..." to consider for each name.

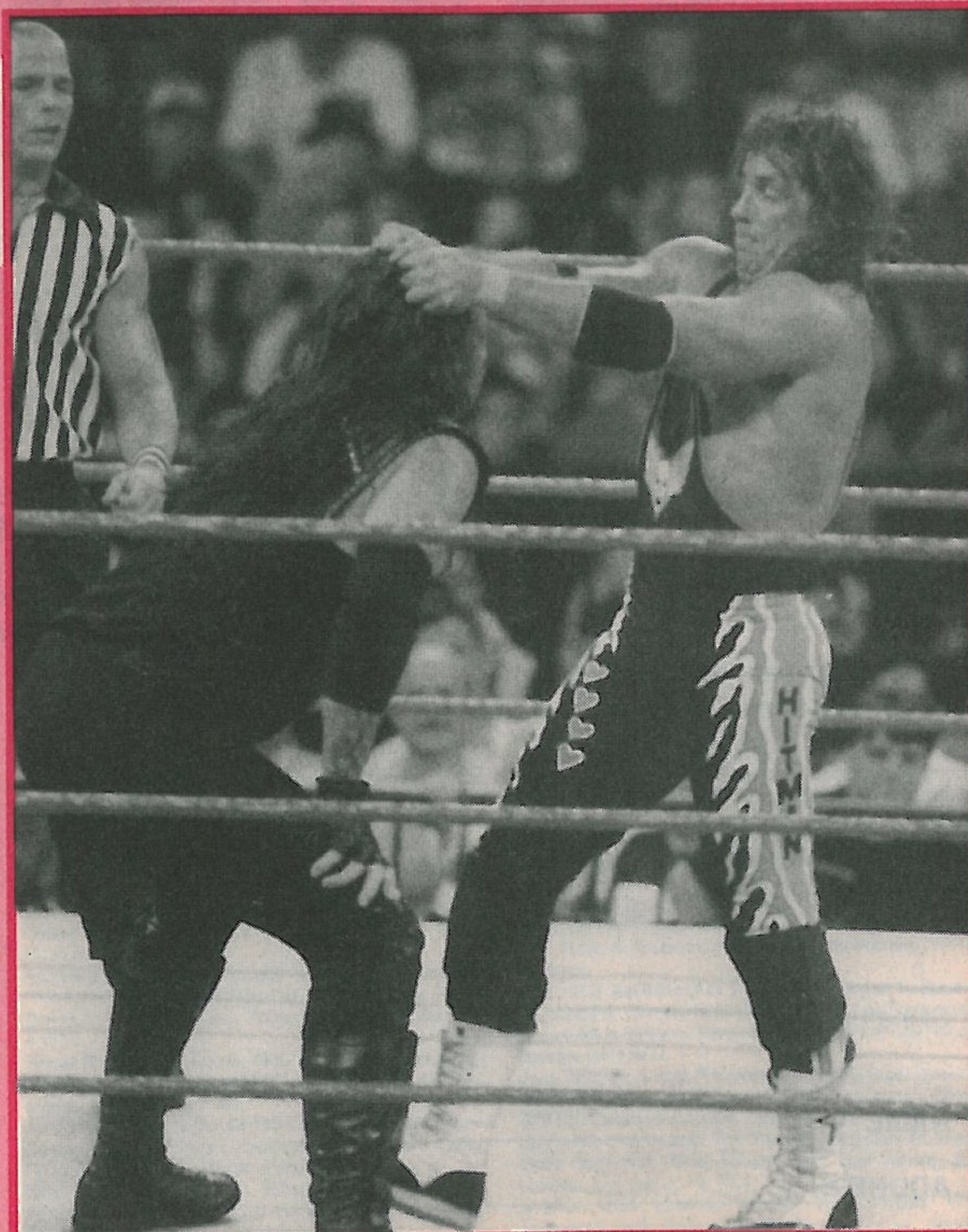
Bret Hart? Yeah, but ... he was out a good portion of the year. Hart didn't return from his hiatus until November, and even after he did, he suffered a series of injuries that kept him sidelined for signifi-

cant stretches and limited his effectiveness when he did compete. One major plus working in his favor, of course, was capturing his fifth WWF World title from The Undertaker.

How about The Undertaker? Yeah, but ... what about his slow start? Remember, the "PWI 500" encompasses 12 months. If any-

body, The Undertaker was the dominant WWF World champion during that 12-month period, but don't forget his losses to Mankind, Sid, Big Van Vader, a pinfall loss to Kama Mustafa in a tag match, and, of course, Bret Hart for the World title in August.

Hulk Hogan? Yeah, but ... being the World champion of World



Bret Hart would probably claim that he deserves to be number one in this year's "PWI 500" because he beat the year's most dominant WWF champion, The Undertaker, for the belt at SummerSlam. Sorry, "Hitman," not good enough.

Championship Wrestling (or even the NWO) doesn't mean all that much when you almost never put the title on the line. Three times during the course of the year he submitted to Lex Luger's "rack," each time without even trying to free himself. And while his non-title losses did not cost him his belt, they certainly helped knock him way down in the "500."

Shawn Michaels? Yeah, but ... the first thing you think of when you think of Michaels over the last 12 months is his inactivity. With so much of the WWF's talent roster having left for WCW, Michaels could have had a breakout year. Instead, he was physically and mentally worn down by the grueling schedule he took on.

"Diamond" Dallas Page? Vastly improved, but not among the elite.

Steve Austin? Showed tremendous fortitude in beating Owen Hart for the Intercontinental title, but he lost many of his other big matches.

Scott Hall and Kevin Nash? Primarily competed in tag teams.

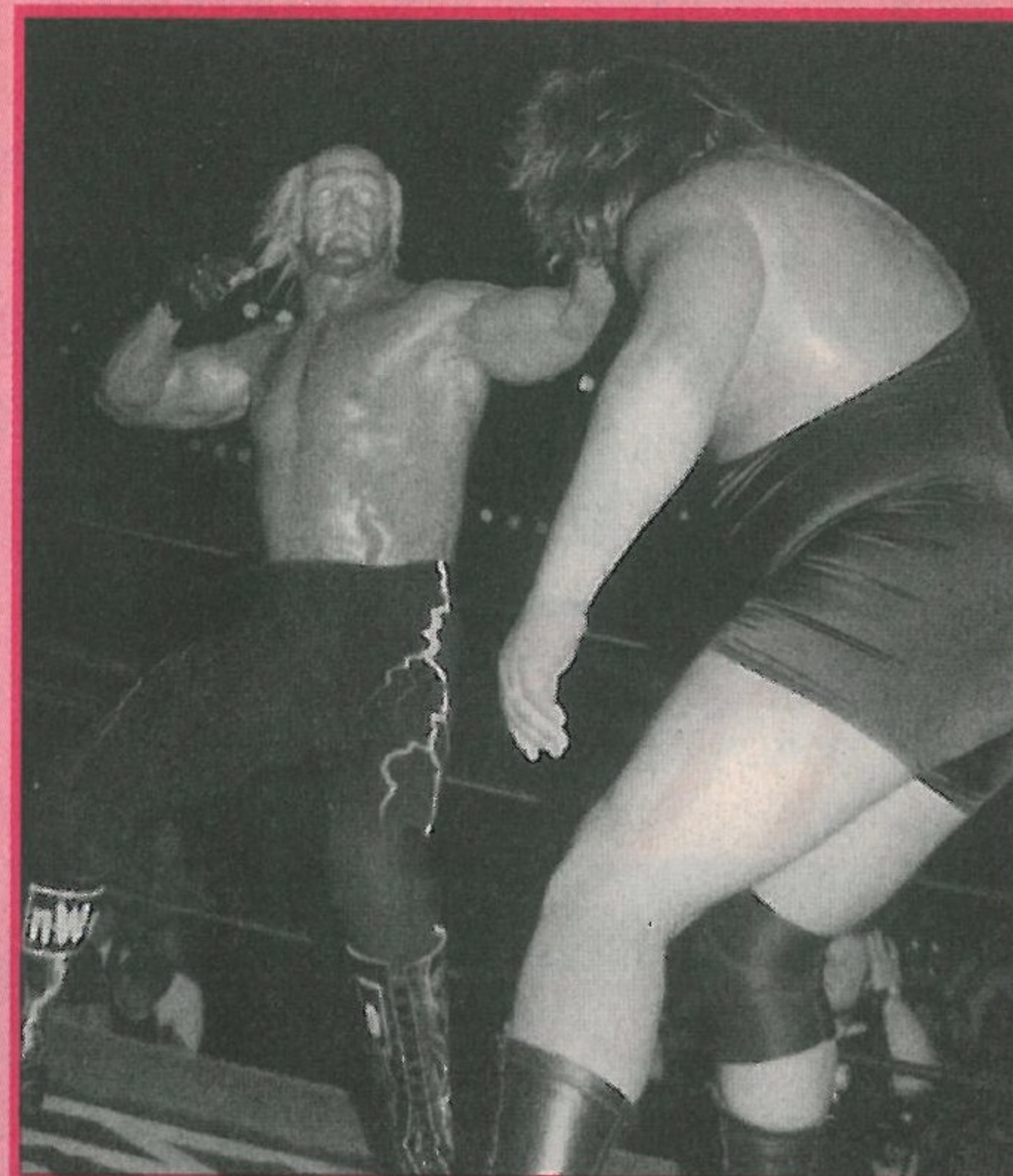
Mitsuharu Misawa? Great Japanese talent, but I'll admit it: Although Misawa received a number-two ranking this year, it's going to take a bit to elevate a Japanese wrestler into the top spot of an American magazine.

After considering all the criteria (see page 19), we came to the following conclusion: No one wrestler had a dominant year. Looking back at previous number ones—Hogan (1991), Sting (1992), Bret Hart (1993, 1994), Diesel (1995), and Shawn Michaels (1996)—each, with the possible exception of

Hogan, had experienced career years. Some would become even better, but to that point a strong case could be made that the year of their selection was their best ever. The same could not be said about anybody this year.

After a very lengthy—and sometimes heated—meeting, the editors decided that the number-one selection in the 1997 "PWI 500" would go not to the wrestler who scored highest when all of our criteria were considered, but to the wrestler who was, quite simply, the best technical wrestler. And even with only one criterion to consider, the selection was not an easy one. Just what makes somebody the best technical wrestler? Knowledge of holds and counterholds? Aerial ability? The ability to dictate the pace of a match? Stamina? The answer is yes, yes, and yes (and probably a few more yeses to a lot more questions not even listed).

We expect our selection of Dean Malenko to receive harsh criticism, and not just because there are probably a half-dozen wrestlers who could have been rated the top technical wrestler. The biggest complaint we expect to hear is that, after six years, we chose to alter our own standard by which the rating is determined.



Hulk Hogan had The Giant reeling a bit when he threw this punch, but he was hardly dominant in the ring in the last 12 months. Number one in the "500"? No way.

You know what? These people would be absolutely correct.

The way we perceive the situation, though, it was as if there was a tie between two football teams for a playoff position. "Technical ability" was the first tiebreaker. Now, did we apply that same standard to positions 2-500? The answer is no. The 1997 "PWI 500" is not a ranking of the top 500 wrestlers in order of pure ability. That's certainly not what the "PWI 500" is all about.

Not being able to select a number one in our usual manner in no way speaks badly about the state of the game. In many ways, in fact, the sport has never been stronger. The "PWI 500" in the year 1997 in an anomaly.

At least I hope it is.



# THE PWI 500

IF YOU HAVEN'T yet read Stu Saks' "From The Desk Of ..." column, do so now. We'll wait ...

... There you have it. Every standard upon which the "PWI 500" is based is shot to heck. Let's not get crazy here. We haven't exactly revolutionized the selection process. We simply lacked a clear-cut winner this year and came up with what we felt was the best way to decide the issue. After applying only one standard to the selection of the top spot—pure wrestling ability—we tried our best to follow our own rules for the remaining 499 wrestlers. Let's review:

- By ranking a wrestler in a position above another wrestler, we are not saying that the higher-ranked wrestler is necessarily better or that he (or she) would beat the lower-ranked wrestler. Among the points taken into account are the wrestler's pound-for-pound abilities and how active he was for the year.

- Aside from this year's top spot, wrestlers are not ranked on their pure wrestling ability. Success in wrestling is measured by wins and losses, and if a wrestler can brawl his way to victory, that's fully acceptable.

- The "500" is not a men's only club. Madd Maxxine, who regularly defends the PWF junior heavyweight title against men listed in the "500," has made the cut for the third straight year.

- Injuries do not necessarily disqualify wrestlers from the list. If a wrestler competed for a good portion of the year, he may have accomplished enough to qualify. Wrestlers who have spent most of the year on the disabled list can most likely be found in "Farewell To The 500" with a DL designation. Special note: Sting has not wrestled since September 1996. He can also be found in the "Farewell" section, under "inactive."

- The time period for this year's "500" is August 1996 through August 1997.

As always, we welcome your feedback on the "500." You can write to us or reach us at the *PWI* America Online site in the Wrestling Rap section of Grandstand's Squared Circle area. Here's how:

(1) From AOL's main menu, click on Sports. (2) From the Sports menu, click on The Grandstand. In the Grandstand menu, scroll down to and click on the Squared Circle (wrestling and boxing) listing. (4) From the Squared Circle menu, click on the Grandstand Wrestling Area listing. (5) In the Grandstand Wrestling Area menu, click on Wrestling Rap Messages. (6) In Wrestling Rap, click on the icon that says either "browse folders" (if you're a PC user) or "list topics" (if you have a Mac). (7) In the list of topics you see, scroll down until you find a listing for *PWI* Online.

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*[Editor's note: The numbers in parentheses following each name represent the wrestler's height, weight, years of pro experience, and rating in the 1996-97 "PWI 500." An "NL" means the wrestler was not listed a year ago. A complete list of wrestlers ranked in 1996-97 but not 1997-98, as well as an alphabetical cross-reference to the "PWI 500," follow this listing.]*



# DEAN MALENKO (5'9", 216, 17, 13)

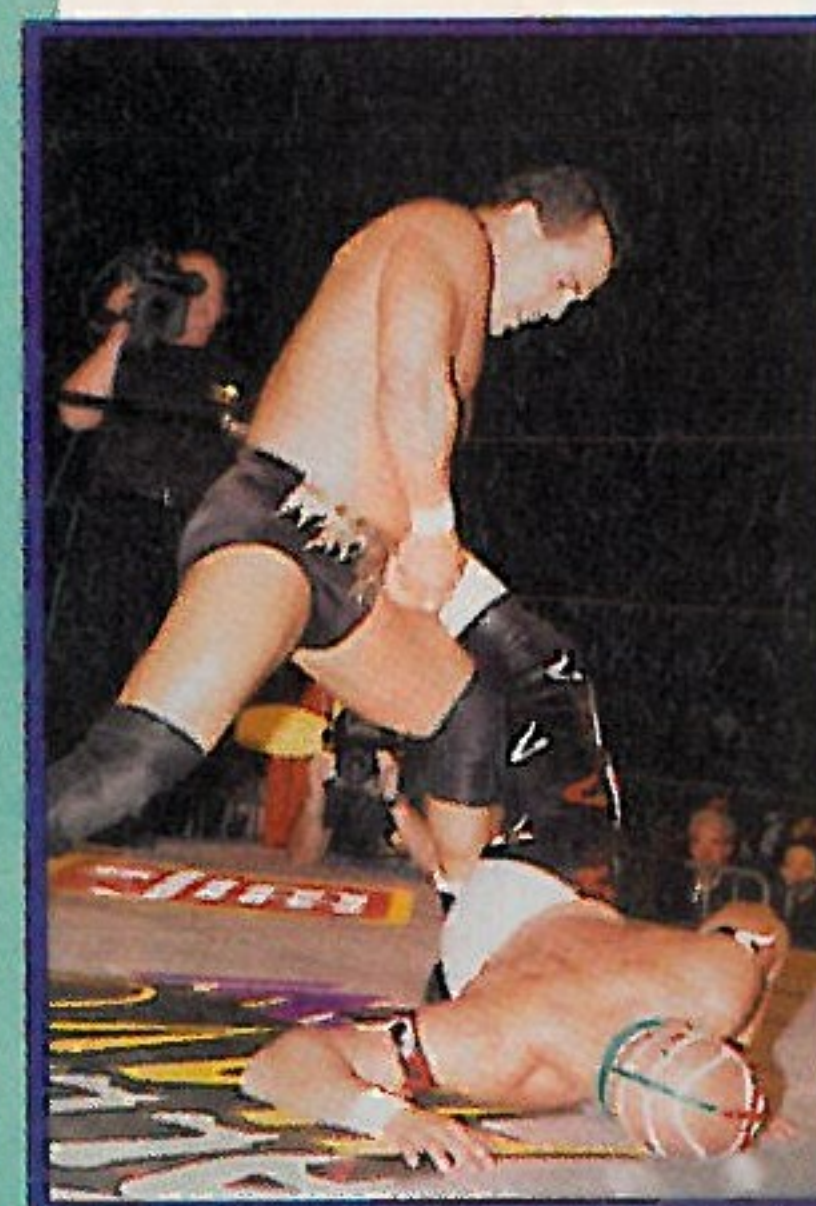
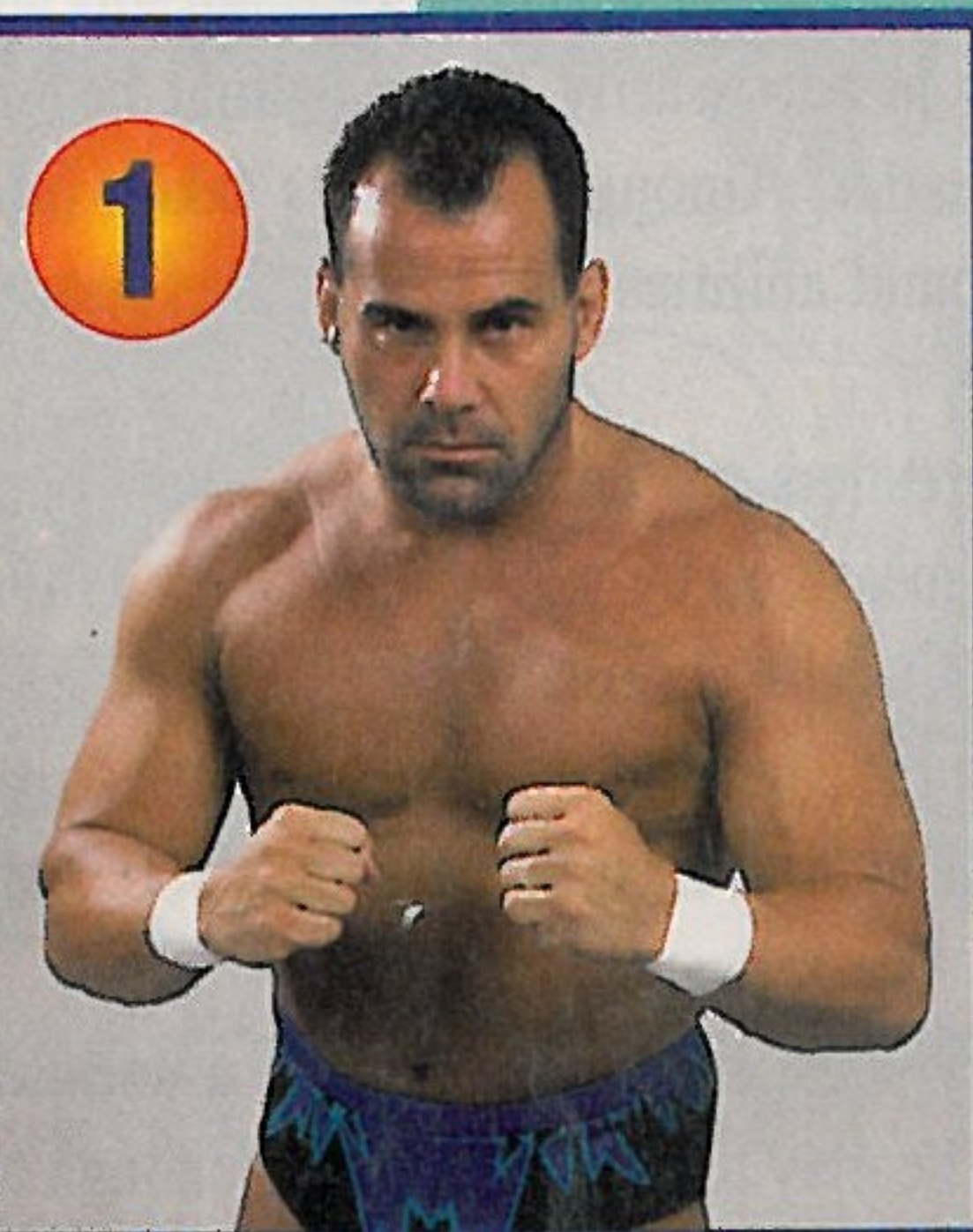
## TOP FIVE MOMENTS OF YEAR:

1. Defeated Eddy Guerrero at Uncensored to win the WCW U.S. title. 2. Defeated Rey

Misterio Jr. at Halloween Havoc for his second cruiserweight championship. 4. Defeated Ultimo Dragon at January's Clash of Champions to win his third WCW cruiserweight title. 5. Successfully defended his U.S. title against Jeff Jarrett at Slamboree by making him submit to the Texas cloverleaf.

**HE SAID IT:** "I am not a man who says what he's going to do or brags about what he has done. I just get in the ring and do it. Being ranked number one on this list is a victory not just for me, but for every wrestler who doesn't need flash, fireworks, and fancy music to prove his worth. This year I also proved that I can make the transition from cruiserweight titleholder to champion in the heavyweight ranks when I won the U.S. belt. But I still have one goal remaining, that being the WCW World title. All I need is one shot to achieve that goal. I'm number one now, and I intend to stay there."

**PATH TO THE TOP 10:** 250th in 1991; 309th in 1992; 150th in 1993; 191st in 1994; 21st in 1995; 13th in 1996



One of Dean's many leglocks

percentage during the last 12 months. During that time, he convincingly won two cruiserweight belts and one U.S. title; he remains a top contender to both. Second, no wrestler dominated the world title scene in either the WWF or WCW, so Malenko, arguably the best and most versatile mat wrestler in the world, is the man. Can he repeat next year? His skills won't diminish any, and if he either takes a run at the World title or dominates the way he did at times this year, it's certainly possible.

**WHERE HE'S HEADED:** The selection of Dean Malenko as the top wrestler in the prestigious "500" might surprise some people. Two factors came into play more than any others in this decision. First, consider that Malenko had a very impressive winning

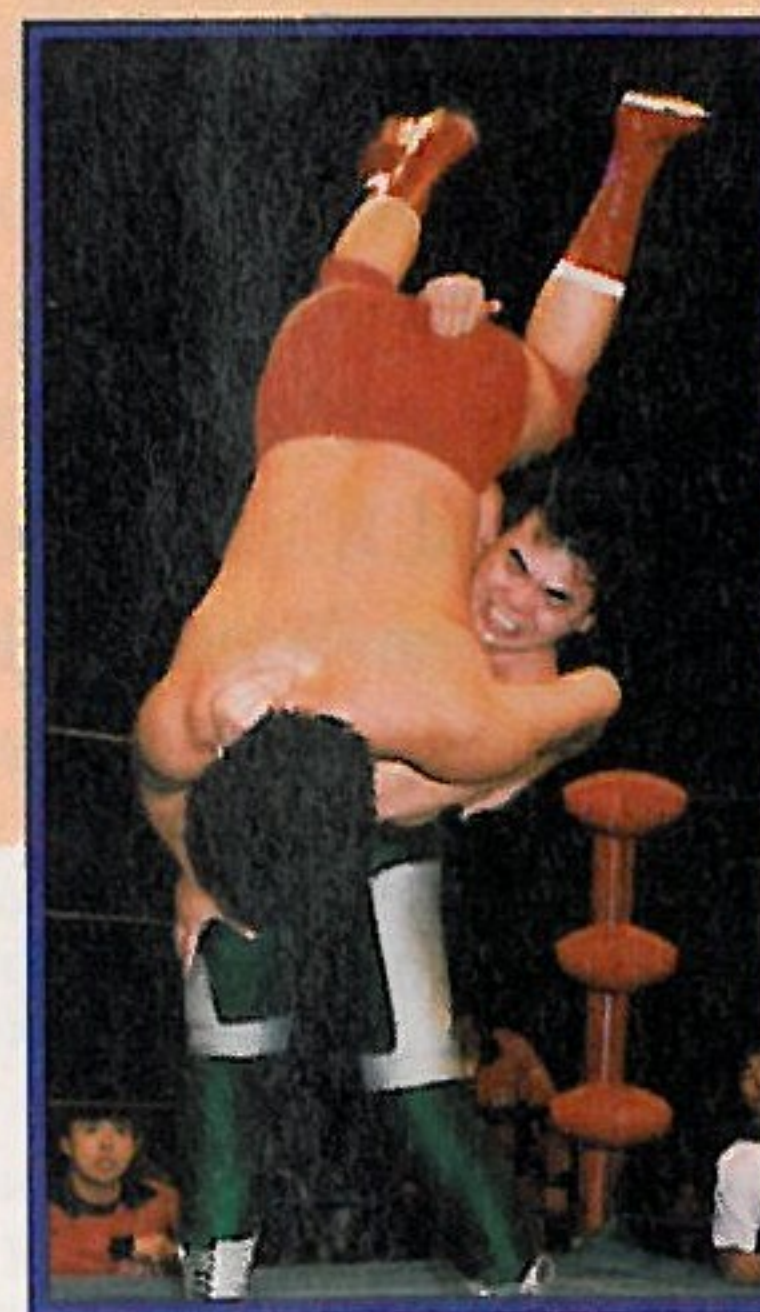
## TOP FIVE MOMENTS OF YEAR:

1. Pinned Kenta Kobashi on January 20 in Osaka to win the All-Japan Triple Crown for the third time. 2. Beat rival Toshiaki Kawada on June 6 to retain the Triple Crown and avenge a loss in the Champions Carnival final. 3. Pinned Akira Taue in a July 25 Triple Crown defense to avenge a May 1996 loss. 4. Pinned Steve Williams on March 1, 2½ years after losing the Triple Crown to him. 5. Advanced to the finals of the World Tag League in December and just missed winning the tourney for the fifth straight year.

**HE SAID IT (through an interpreter):** "I believe very strongly that what is most important is what you think of your own ability and what your peers think of your ability, but it is also quite an honor to be ranked as the top Japanese wrestler in the world by PRO WRESTLING ILLUSTRATED. I've worked very hard to become the wrestler that I am, but I always feel I can and will get better."

**PATH TO THE TOP 10:** 187th in 1991;

# MITSU HARU MISAWA (6'1", 242, 17, 28)

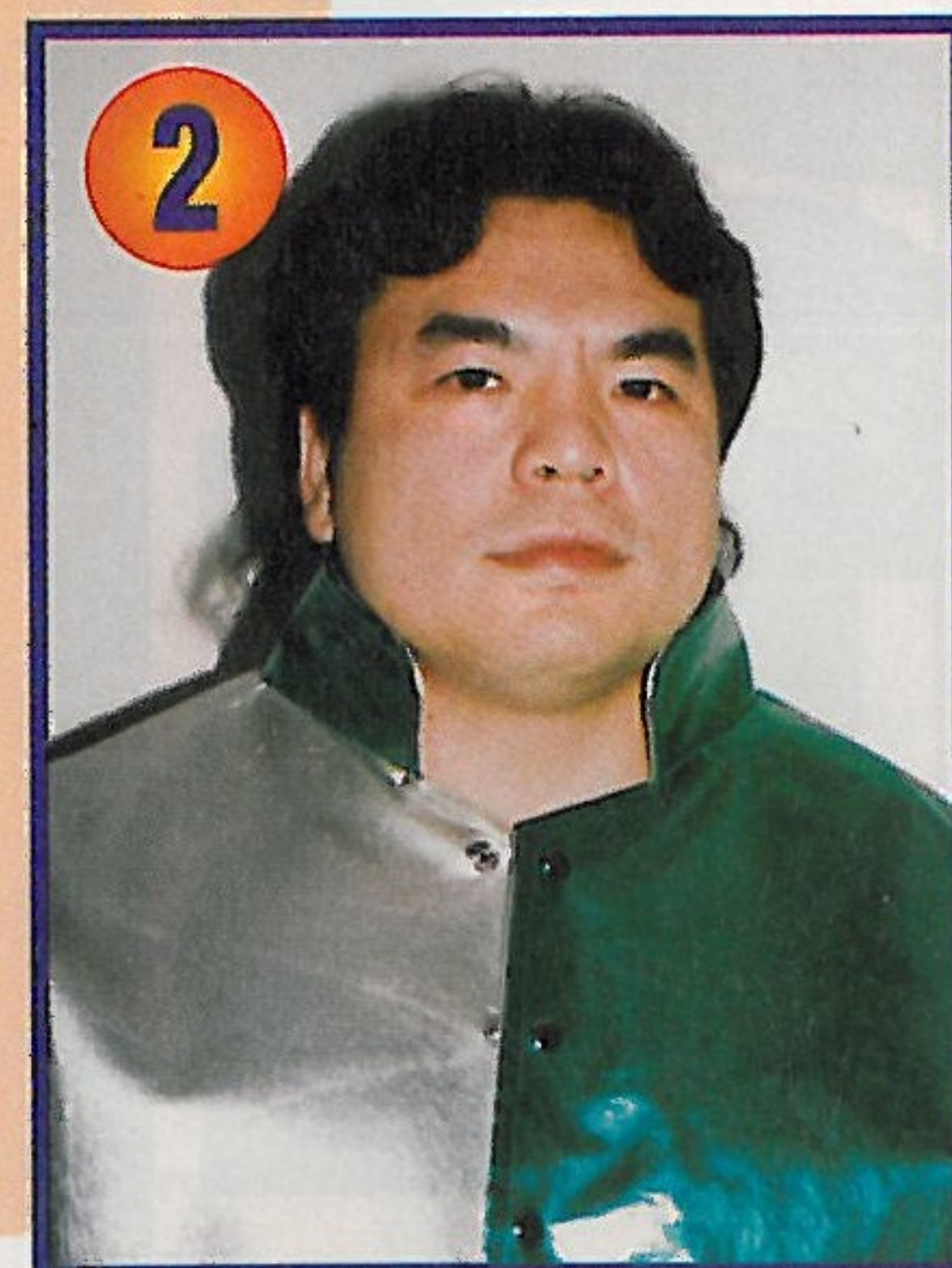


Misawa bodyslams Akira Taue

205th in 1992; 92nd in 1993; 29th in 1994; 10th in 1995; 28th in 1996

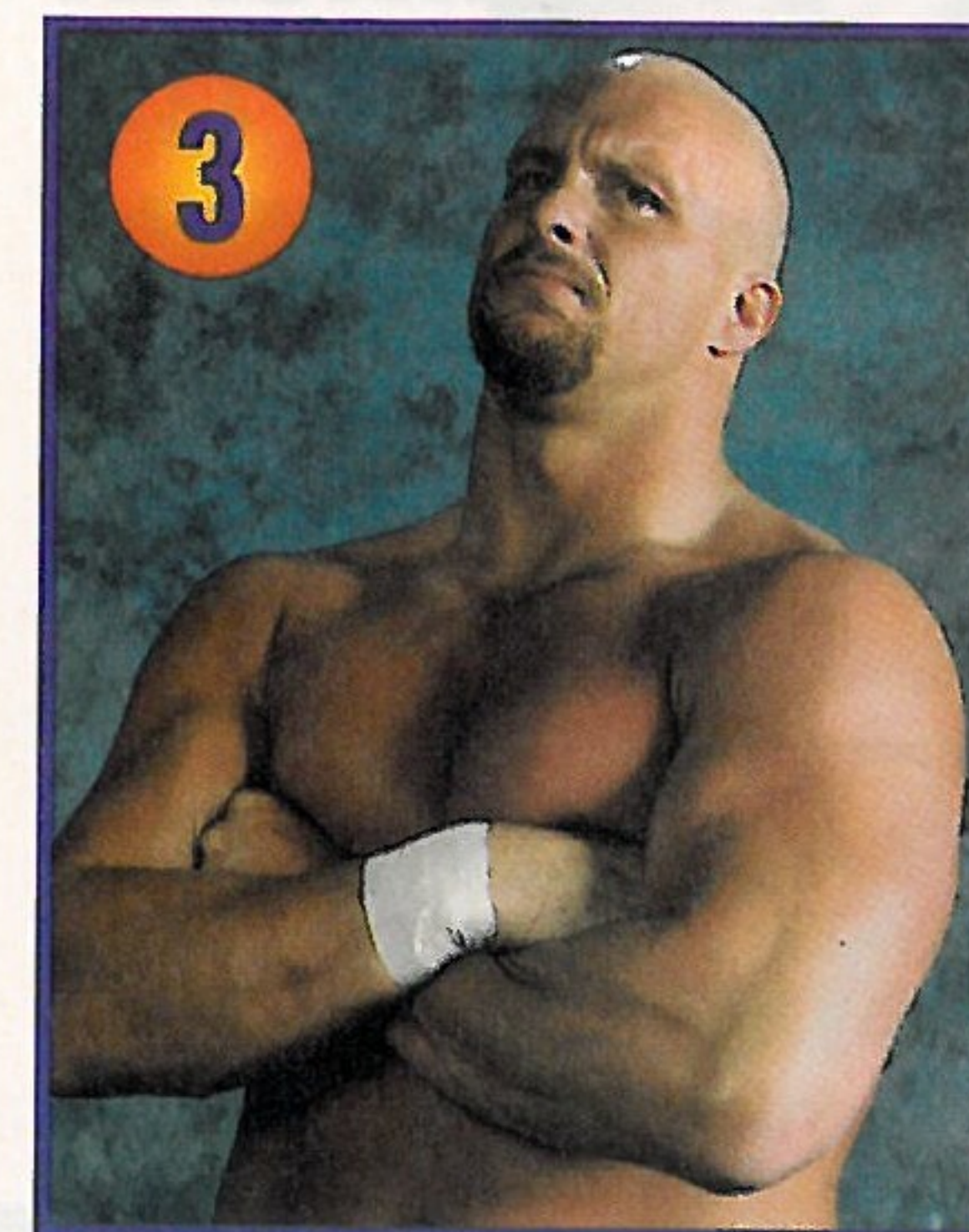
**WHERE'S HE HEADED:** There isn't much more for him to accomplish in All-Japan. He is a complete wrestler who possesses a vast and devastating arsenal of offensive moves and an amazing ability to absorb punishment and come back from injury. He also has the uncanny ability to invent and

modify moves in the ring (he invented two versions of the tiger driver, a version of the tiger suplex, the rolling elbow, and diving neckbreaker



drop). Plus his stamina is matched in All-Japan only by Toshiaki Kawada and Kenta Kobashi. The dominant Japanese heavyweight of the 1990s—there was a time when pinning Misawa meant more than winning any title in All-Japan—has lost a little in the last 18 months, but judging by his record, he's still the best wrestler in All-Japan. He stands an excellent chance of being in a similar position next year.

# STEVE AUSTIN (6'2", 241, 8, 22)



## TOP FIVE MOMENTS OF YEAR:

1. Defeated Owen Hart for the WWF Intercontinental title at SummerSlam. 2. Won the 1997 Royal Rumble. 3. With partner Shawn Michaels, defeated Owen Hart and Davey Boy Smith for the

WWF World tag team title. 4. With Dude Love, upended Owen and Davey Boy in the finals of a tournament for the WWF World tag team title. 5. Attacked the entire Hart Foundation during a broadcast of *Raw Is War* in Canada as "Oh, Canada" was playing.

**HE SAID IT:** "The bottom line is that it don't matter to me where I rank in this top 500 list. I didn't play politics and I didn't kiss nobody's [butt] to get where I am today. By hook or by crook, I have risen to the top of the WWF. I didn't have to primp and preen like some damn pretty boy. I just go out there night after night and take care of business. But if you think that I'm satisfied being the Intercontinental champion and a WWF tag team champion, you better think again, son. I will be WWF champion as soon as I get my shot at that belt. And I will be number one in this list. That's the way it's gonna be!"

**PATH TO THE TOP 10:** 31st in 1991; 10th



Austin likes hurting Bret

his knee in his battles with Bret Hart, and he suffered acute spinal trauma when Owen piledrived him at SummerSlam. Austin needs to pace himself better. He needs to give those nagging injuries more time to heal if he wants to win the WWF title and perhaps take the top spot in next year's "500." The memories of his quick comeback in WCW after a serious knee injury should be fresh in his mind. He thought he needed to get back as soon as possible, but he ended up struggling when he did return. He had better hope history doesn't repeat itself.

# DALLAS PAGE (6'5", 260, 6, 54)

## TOP FIVE MOMENTS OF YEAR:

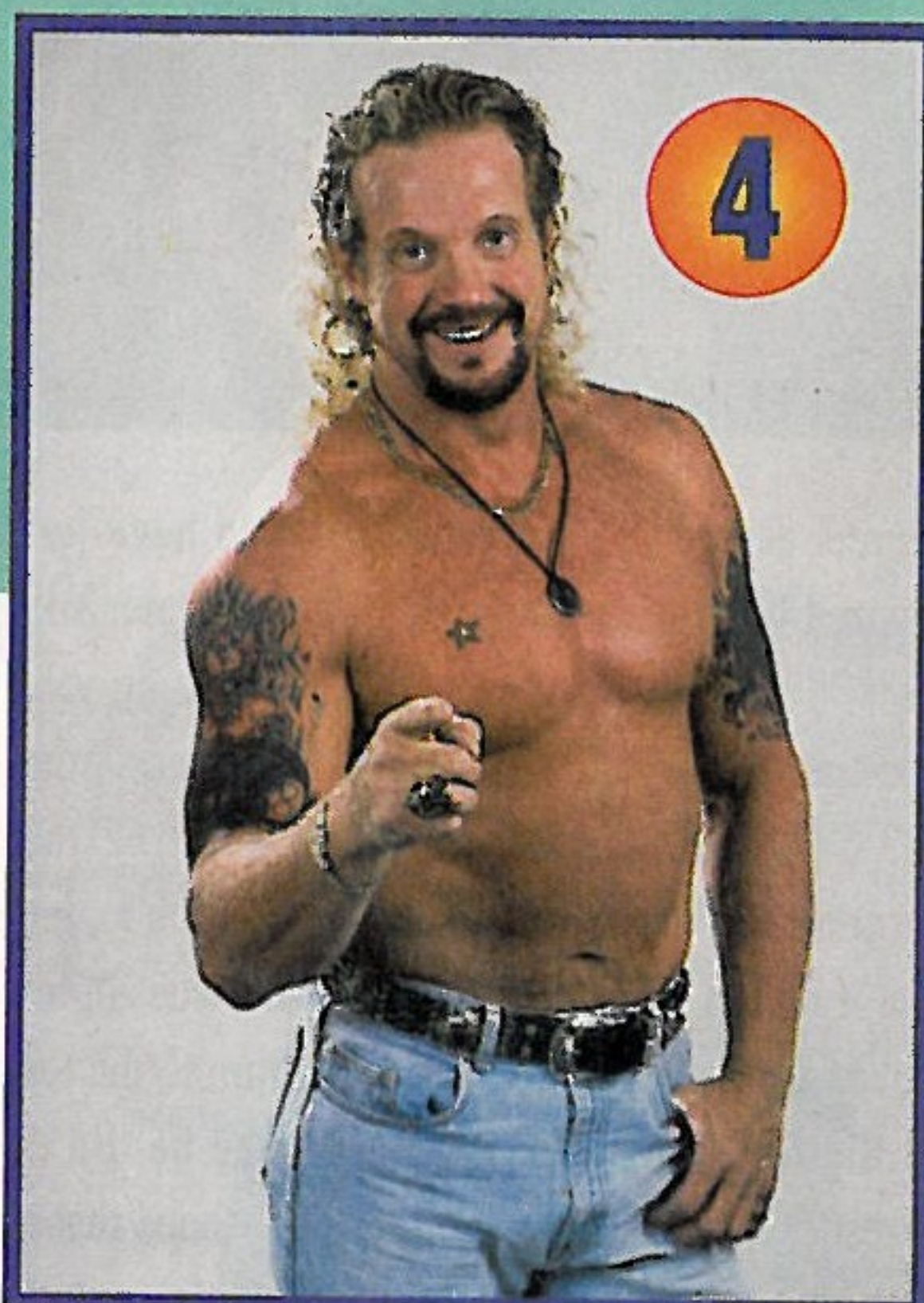
1. Defeated arch-rival Randy Savage at The Great American Bash. 2. Became a hero to WCW fans when he repeatedly rejected the NWO's

offers to join the group. 3. Impersonated La Parka and pinned a surprised Savage again on *Nitro*. 4. Publicly reunited with wife Kimberly, who appeared in his corner for many matches. 5. Dealt the NWO's Kevin Nash several defeats on arena cards.

**HE SAID IT:** "This shows where a great work ethic can take you. That, plus the support of Kimberly and all my fans has gotten me where I am today. But this isn't it for DDP. There are many mountains to climb, many titles to win, and three more spots to number one.

There are challenges ahead, but those challenges can all be handled with one 'Diamond cutter.' It won't be long before I set my sights on that World title. No one will stop me. Certainly not Curt Hennig or Savage or any of those NWO goons. Get ready, folks, because the best is yet to come. *Bang!*"

**PATH TO THE TOP 10:** Unranked from 1991-1993; 270th in 1994; 111th in 1995; 54th in 1996



DDP's punishing clothesline

league. Then, when he started to show promise, he was described as a rising star. In 1997, Page established himself as a legitimate *superstar* who has gained a tremendous fan following and key victories over legends like Randy Savage. With his wife and fans behind him (and that "Diamond cutter" of his always at his disposal), he could easily remain in the top 10 for years to come ... and maybe, just maybe, that number-one spot will one year be his. Who would have thought?

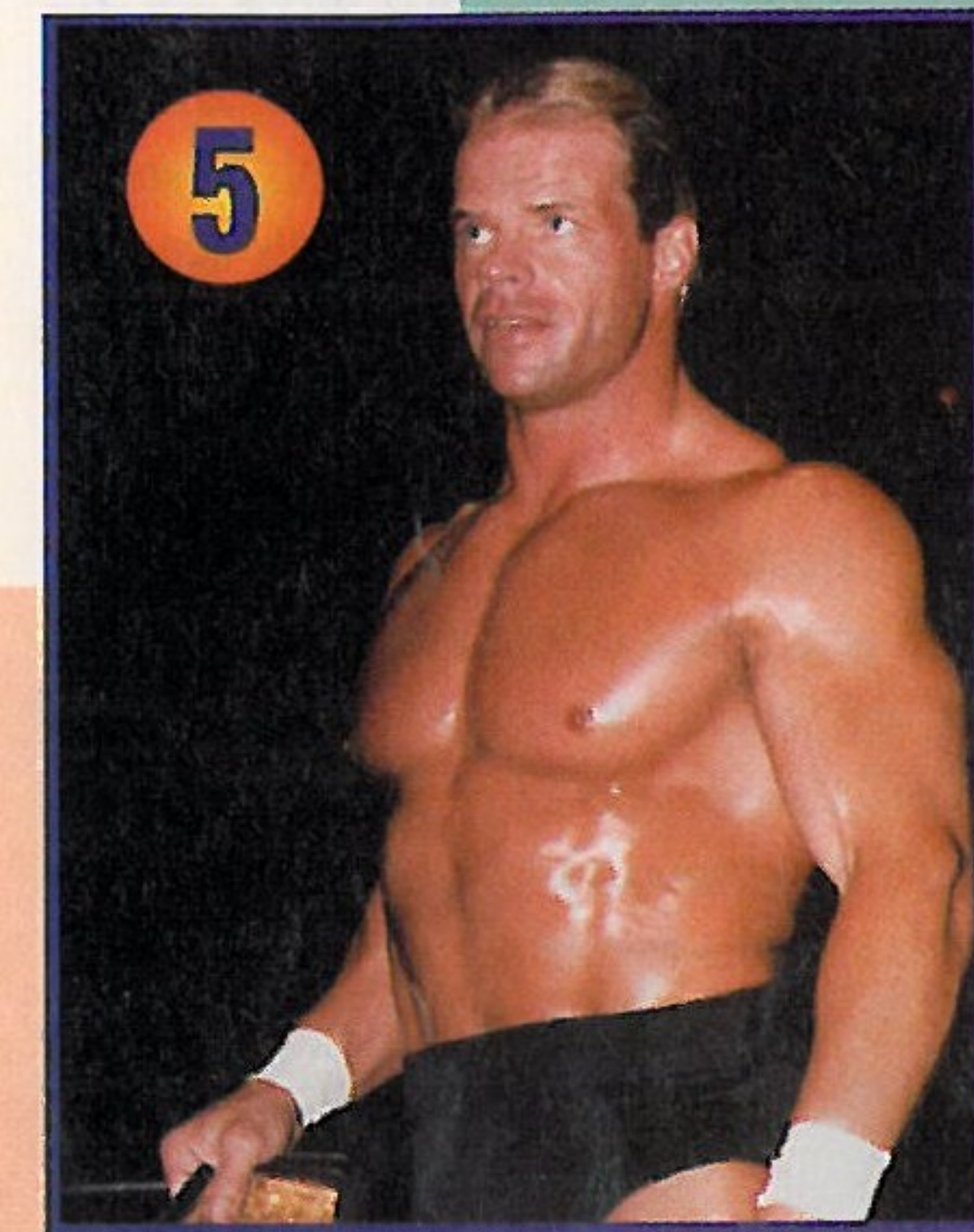
**WHERE HE'S HEADED:** Imagine any of today's managers walking away from their profession to become a wrestler. It is a strange and difficult transition, but DDP has pulled it off better than anyone thought he could. Any he never had a doubt. During his formative years as a wrestler, Page was written off as a wannabe former manager who was out of his



# LEX LUGER (6'5", 265, 12, 17)

## TOP FIVE MOMENTS OF YEAR:

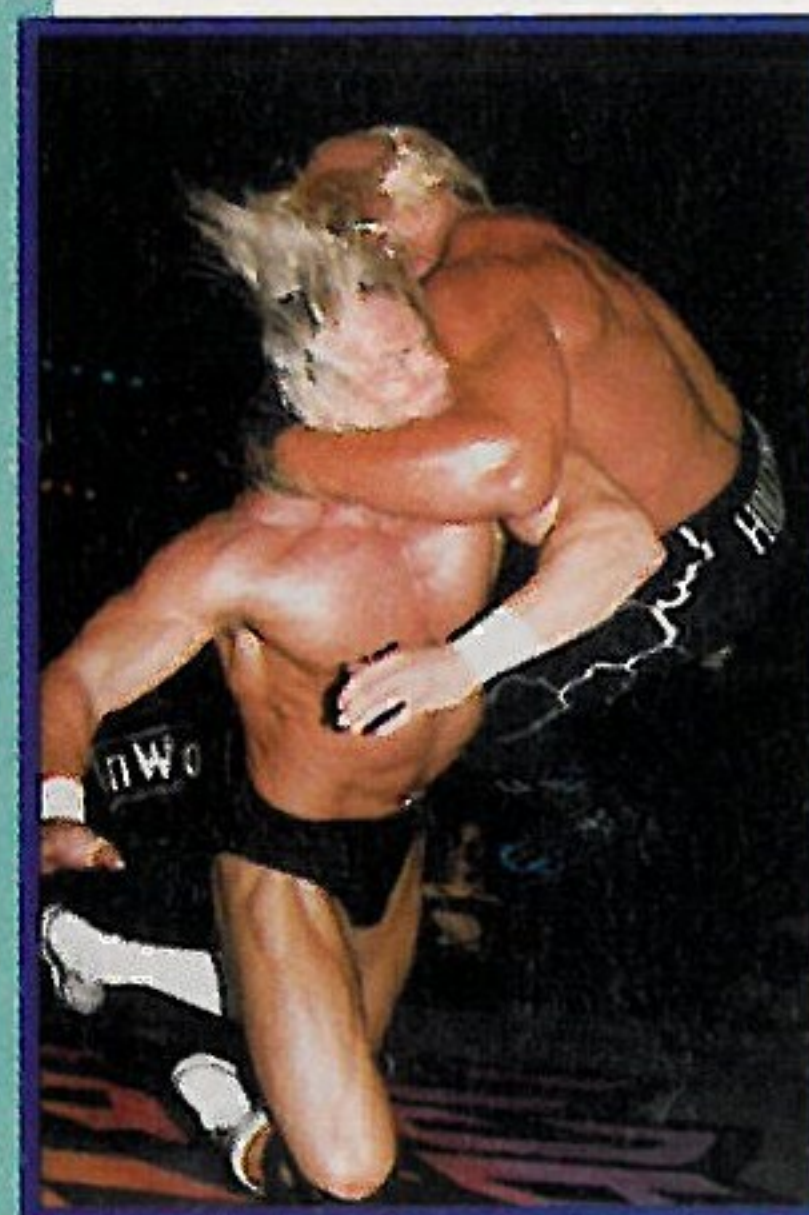
1. Used the "rack" to defeat Hulk Hogan for the WCW World heavyweight title on August 4.
2. "Racked" and defeated Hogan in a non-title match on the June 9 *Nitro*, dealing Hogan his



first submission loss in 16 years. 3. Forced Hogan to submit to the "rack" for a second time during a Bash at the Beach tag team bout. 4. With The Giant, defeated Scott Hall and Kevin Nash for the WCW World tag team title at SuperBrawl on February 23 (they gave it back one day later). 5. Reunited with his best friend, Sting, after a long dispute.

**HE SAID IT:** "It's nice to be back in the top 10, but it felt even better to win the WCW World heavyweight title again. Maybe I have been lacking direction at times in the past, both professionally and personally. But I've learned a great deal from what happened with Sting and my partnership with The Giant. I feel like I am more focused now than I ever have been. Hearing Hogan's back crack as he submitted not once, not twice, but *three* times to my 'rack' was one of the sweetest sounds I ever heard. Now I just have to find a way to get that belt back."

**PATH TO THE TOP 10:** 2nd in 1991; unranked in 1992; 7th in 1993; 17th in 1994; 23rd in 1995; 17th in 1996



Lex gave Hogan hell

consistent winner since he rejoined WCW in September 1995. He finally won his second WCW World title when he beat Hogan in August, and you can't come down on him too hard for holding the belt only five days. Hogan needed extensive help from his NWO friends to take Luger down, and if he could ever get a fair rematch with Hogan, we suspect Lex would "rack" him and beat him. If he wrestles as well in the next 12 months as he did in the previous 12, he could move up on this list next year.

**WHERE HE'S HEADED:** What a rollercoaster ride Luger's career has been! Labeled a future superstar very early in his career, Luger won his share of titles, then suffered through quite a drought during his time in the WWF.

But he has been a

# SHINYA HASHIMOTO (5'11", 285, 13, 12)



## TOP FIVE MOMENTS OF YEAR:

1. Beat Naoya Ogawa on May 3 at the Osaka Dome to avenge the toughest loss of his career. 2.

Pinned Riki Choshu on January 4 at the Tokyo Dome to retain the IWGP heavyweight title. 3. Pinned Keiji Muto (their first one-on-one match in more than two years) on June 5 to retain the IWGP title. 4. Teamed with Scott Norton to win New Japan's Super Grade Tag League tournament in November 1996. 5. Turned back the challenge of Kazuo Yamazaki on February 16.

**HE SAID IT (through an interpreter):** "It has been a true honor for me to defend my [IWGP] title so often during the last year or so. I believe it is the most prestigious title in the world, and I am glad that the people at PRO WRESTLING ILLUSTRATED recognized my accomplishments by giving me such a high ranking. There are so many outstanding wrestlers from my country, many of whom I have had the privilege to compete against this year. I am proud to be considered among the elite wrestlers not only in Japan,

but in all the world."

**PATH TO THE TOP 10:** Unranked from 1991-1993; 82nd in 1994; 134th in 1995; 12th in 1996

**WHERE HE'S HEADED:** At press time, he was in the midst of the longest IWGP heavyweight title reign in history (it began in April 1996), but many feel he is starting to wear down after defending the belt so often. Should he lose the belt soon, it would in no way diminish what he has accomplished in the past year. He still is only



Hashimoto chops Ogawa

32, younger than both Masa Chono and Muto, and only a year older than Kensuke Sasaki. Over the past four years, he has held the IWGP belt for all but 13 months. In other words, he has been a dominant New Japan superstar. And if he does lose the belt in the next few months, you can be certain that he wouldn't wait too long before pursuing it in earnest again. He should be one of New Japan's top stars for many years to come.

## TOP FIVE MOMENTS OF YEAR:

1. Pinned "Psycho" Sid for the WWF World title at WrestleMania XIII. 2. Defeated Mankind at In Your House: Revenge of the Taker. 3. Threw a fireball that scarred the face of Paul Bearer, his former manager. 4. Defeated Bearer's protege, Big Van Vader, at In Your House: Canadian Stampede, with Bearer at ringside. 5. Pinned Steve Austin following a "tombstone" piledriver at In Your House: Cold Day in Hell.

**HE SAID IT:** "I look upon 1997 as a defining year for The Undertaker. I became the WWF champion again and earned a high spot on this prestigious list. My creatures of the night guided me to the top. Even though Bret Hart and Shawn Michaels stole what is rightfully mine, I will conquer once again. No one, not Paul Bearer, not the man who claims to be my brother, will get in my way. I waited a long time to wear the WWF title again, and I don't intend to

# THE UNDERTAKER (6'9", 328, 9, 19)

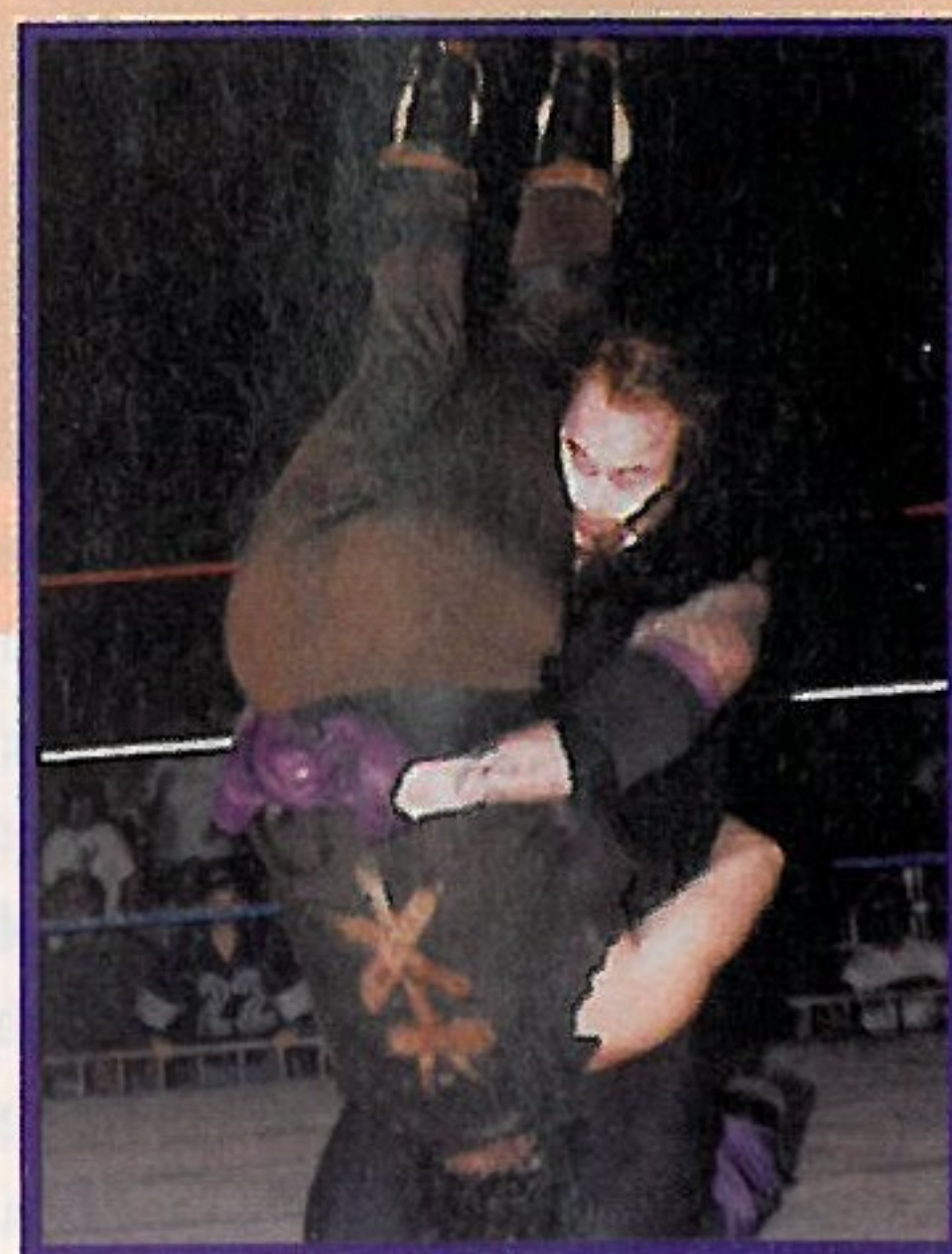
wait that long ever again. Me and my creatures have overcome insurmountable odds in the past, and we will rise again. A warning to anyone who stands in my way: You will rest ... in peace."

## PATH TO THE

**TOP 10:** Unranked in 1991; 21st in 1992; 46th in 1993; 23rd in 1994; 14th in 1995; 19th in 1996

## WHERE HE'S

**HEADED:** While The Undertaker achieved a long-time goal of regaining the WWF crown this year, he also showed that he can still be easily distracted by side issues irrelevant to his title



'Taker's favorite weapon

defenses. Why would the man carrying the WWF banner worry so much about Paul Bearer? Horrible

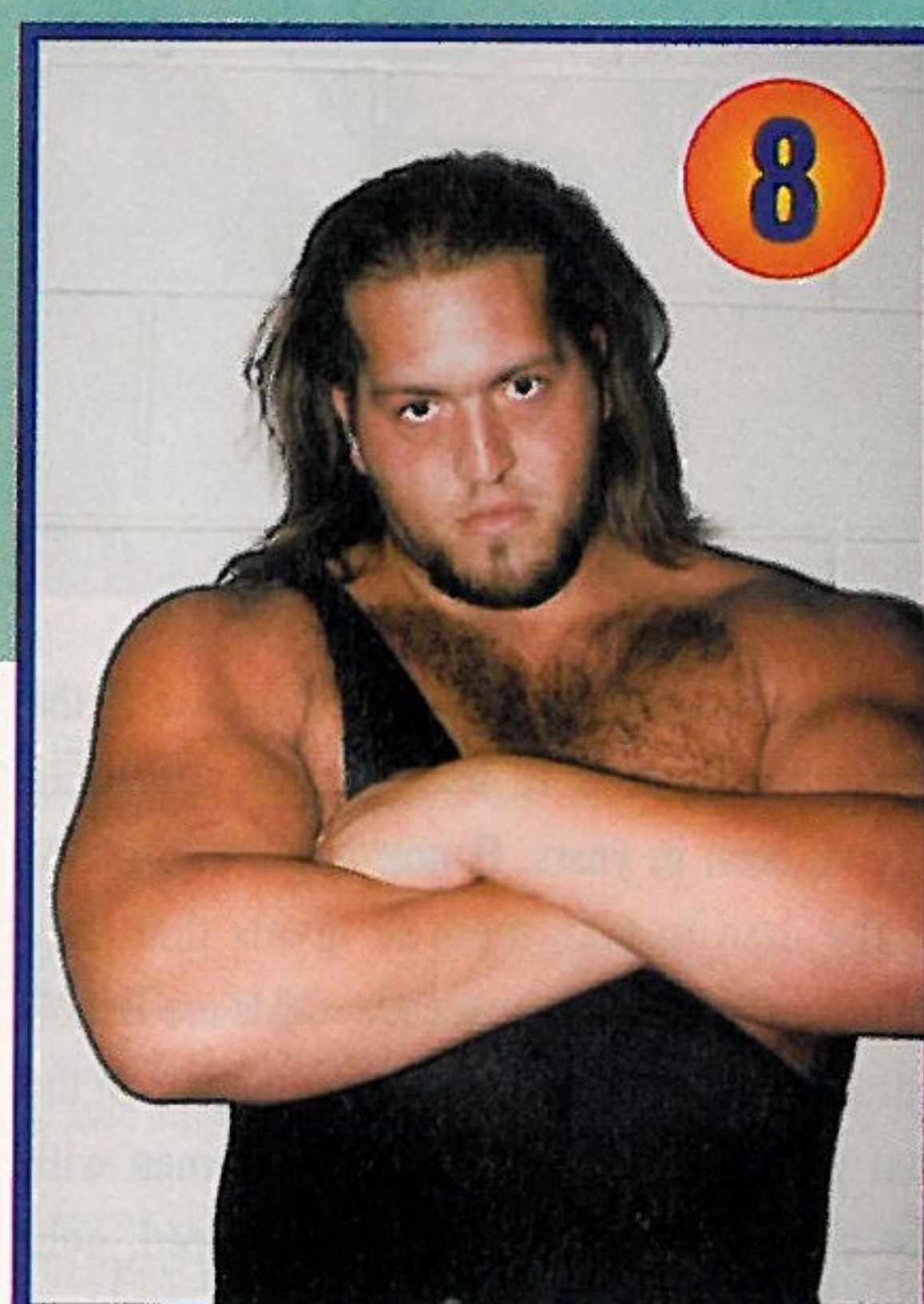


secrets aside, The Undertaker should have just ignored his former manager. Instead, Bearer still pulls 'Taker's strings from afar. The coming year does not figure to be any easier for the man from the dark side. He is one of the few true fan favorites left in the WWF, and he is still a target. But if he can dispose of the irrelevant issues in his career and stay focused, he could return to the top of the federation yet again, just like he did at WrestleMania XIII. For his sake, let's hope that it doesn't take him another six years.

# THE GIANT (7'4", 430, 2, 2)

## TOP FIVE MOMENTS OF YEAR:

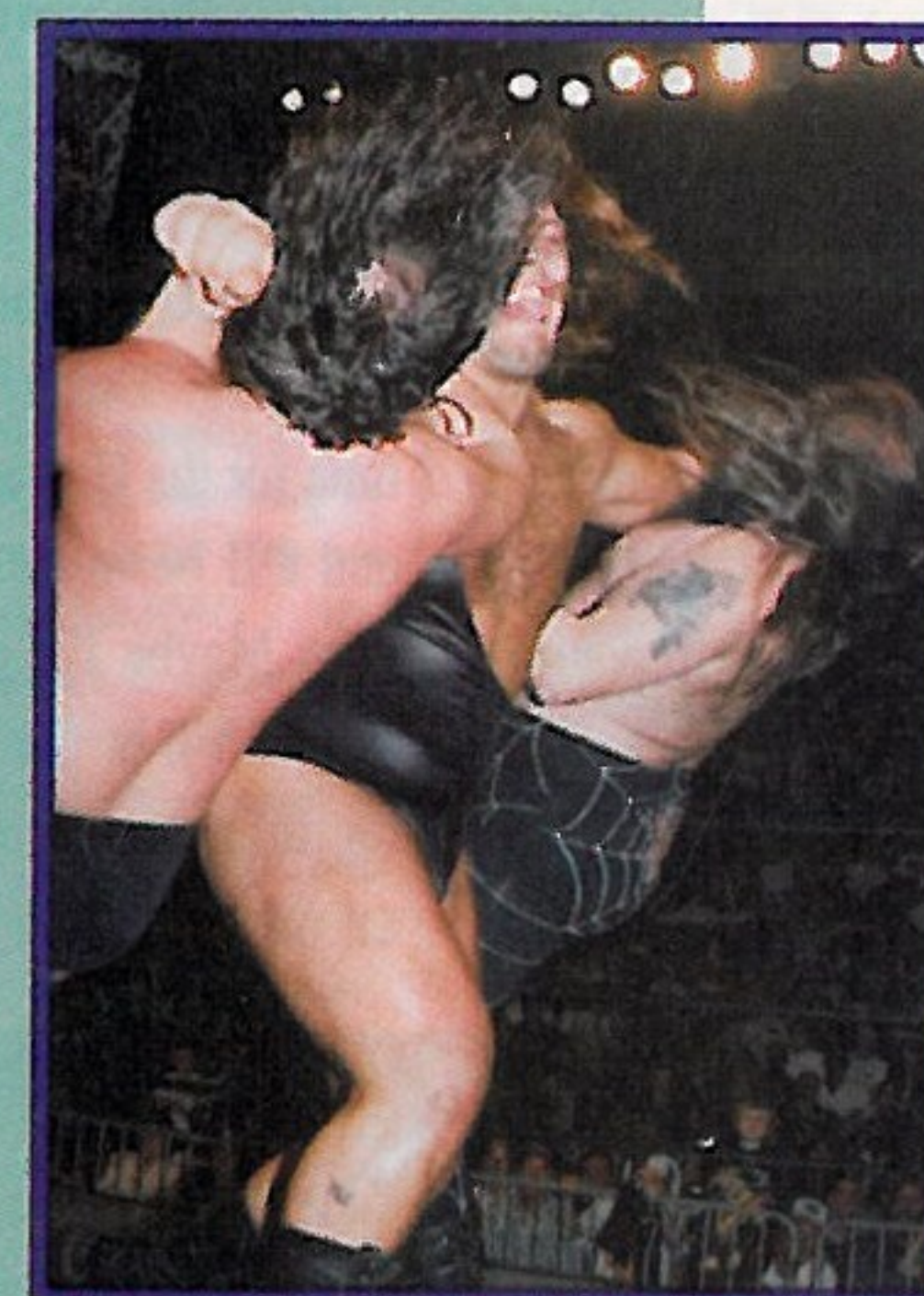
1. With Lex Luger, defeated Scott Hall and Kevin Nash for the WCW World tag team title at SuperBrawl (they gave it back one day later).



2. Stepped aside to allow Luger to "rack" Booker T and thus earn a World title shot in an elimination match at Spring Stampede. 3. Pledged his allegiance to WCW when he bolted from the NWO in December 1996. 4. Defeated Hall and Nash by disqualification in several handicap matches. 5. Choke-slammied Eric Bischoff on *Nitro* in July.

**HE SAID IT:** "In the last year alone, I left the Dungeon of Doom, joined and left the New World Order, and won

the World tag team title. Now all I care about is doing right by WCW. I will not stand idly by and let the NWO take over. No one knows them better than I do, and I feel like it's up to me to get rid of them. Plus, I haven't forgotten that World title belt. If Lex doesn't get to him first, I want another shot at Hogan. I proved that I could win the belt before and dominate the heavyweight division. My prediction for the



A Giant double-team effort

next year? I'll continue to dominate with the most devastating choke-slam in the world and grab that top spot in the 'PWI 500' by the throat."

**PATH TO THE TOP 10:** 2nd in 1996 (first year as pro)

**WHERE HE'S HEADED:** This behemoth did not suffer through a sophomore slump, as some predicted he would. While he wasn't quite as domi-

nant in 1997 as he was in 1996 (when he won the WCW World title), The Giant was still very good in both singles and tag team action. Plus he showed a compassionate and loyal side that earned him new allies. In the coming year, The Giant ought to decide whether he's a tag team or singles wrestler. If he's to return to the top five, he'll need to focus a bit less on the NWO and more on major titles.



# JUSHIN LIGER

## (5'6", 213, 14, 38)

### TOP FIVE MOMENTS OF YEAR:

1. Following surgery to remove a benign brain tumor, returned to the ring on September 23, 1996, and defeated Chris Benoit. 2.



Suggested the creation of the J-Crown (eight different titles) in August 1996 and convinced seven other Japanese titleholders to put their belts up in a tournament. 3. Beat Ultimo Dragon on January 4 to win the J-Crown. 4. Beat The Great Sasuke on April 12 to retain the J-Crown. 5. Beat Koji Kanemoto on February 16 to retain the J-Crown.

**HE SAID IT:** "It took a while, but I finally made the top 10 of this very important list. Fans and journalists in America have always shown me a lot of respect, and I believe this ranking again proves that. After I had the surgery to remove my brain tumor last year and was told I was out of danger, I made it my top priority to get back to wrestling the way I did before I had those problems. I felt I owed it to all the fans around the world who have supported me so loyally. It is very satisfying to know that I am back at that level."

**PATH TO THE TOP 10:** 27th in 1991; 18th in 1992; 21st in 1993; 21st in 1994; 143rd



"Thunder" strikes like lightning

in 1995; 38th in 1996

**WHERE HE'S HEADED:** Jushin "Thunder" Liger will likely go down as the greatest Japanese junior heavyweight of all-time (perhaps simply *the* greatest junior heavyweight). Only a wrestler of his prominence and with his influence could have created the J-Crown. In addition to winning that collection of titles, he has captured the IWGP junior heavyweight title eight times and won three major tournaments just in the past eight years. He made an amazing recovery from brain surgery last year and is currently wrestling about as well as he ever has. He's only 33, so one would expect that if he stays healthy, he'll win quite a few more titles and tournaments and remain one of the elite athletes in Japan.

# CHRIS BENOIT

## (5'10", 218, 11, 18)

### TOP FIVE MOMENTS OF YEAR:

1. Defeated Kevin Sullivan in a retirement match at Bash at the Beach. 2. "Ran the gauntlet" (defeated both Meng and The Barbarian by submission) to earn the match with Sullivan. 3. Defeated Sullivan in a San Francisco death match at SuperBrawl VII. 4. Helped Ric Flair and Steve McMichael attack Roddy Piper and thus re-assert the Horsemen's unity. 5. Teamed with Steve McMichael to defeat former Horseman Jeff Jarrett and Dean Malenko in an elimination match at Road Wild.



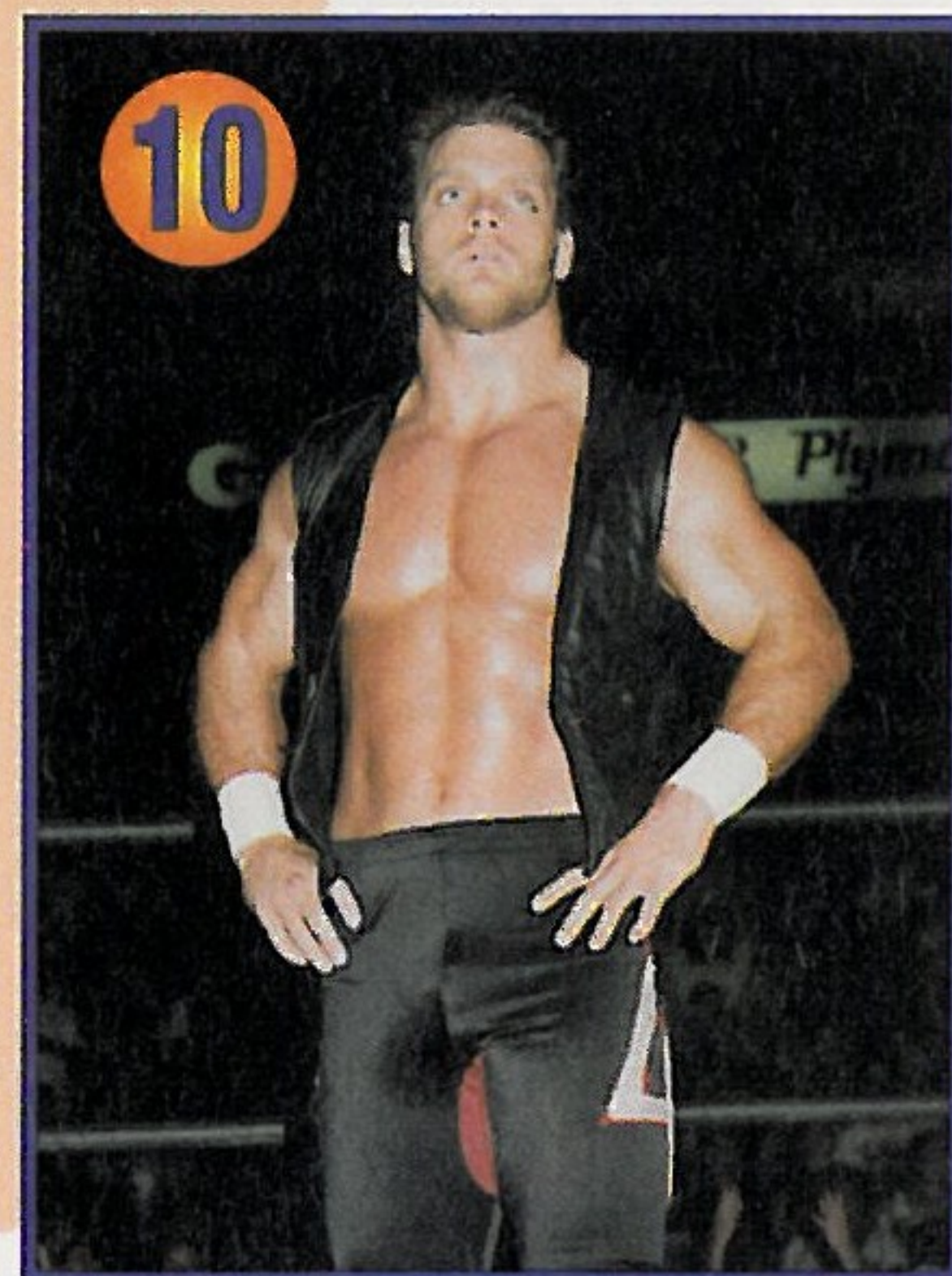
The "Crippler crossface"

you're with WCW or the NWO—I'll take you on and show you what a superb wrestling talent really is. I am a member of the Horsemen because I am one of the elite in professional wrestling. That's what it is all about. Now it's time for the Horsemen to dominate WCW again, and I'll be more than happy to help lead the way. Maybe I'll go after the U.S. title now, or maybe it'll be the World championship. It makes no difference. I've shown everyone that when I set my mind to it, I can accomplish anything and beat anyone. Ask Sullivan and what's left of his Dungeon of Doom."

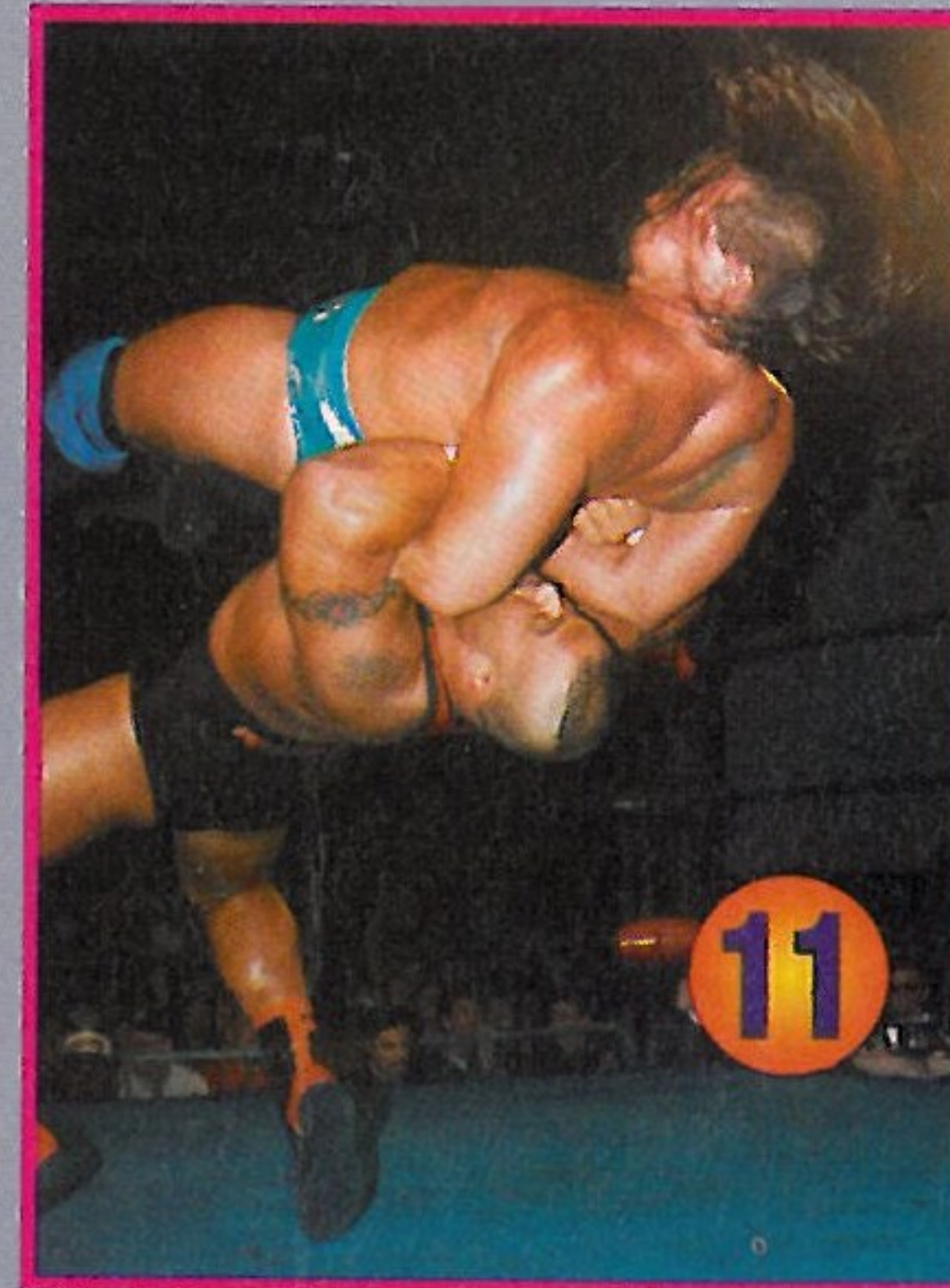
**PATH TO THE TOP 10:** 107th in 1991; 99th in 1992; 44th in 1993; 43rd in 1994; 46th in 1995; 18th in 1996

**WHERE HE'S HEADED:** Benoit is

more focused now than he has been at any time during the past year. Throughout most of 1996, he was obsessed with ruining the life of Kevin



Sullivan. But that feud is finally over, and the Horsemen appear to be stronger now than they've been in years. Benoit might turn out to be the man to take them to levels that they haven't seen in nearly a decade. Odds are Benoit will finally win a title in WCW sometime in the next year. He can provide the Horsemen with two elements that they desperately need: gold and leadership.



Taz is suplexcellent

**11 TAZ** (5'11", 248, 10, 46) This supreme suplex machine has really found his game this year ... Beat Shane Douglas for ECW TV title despite suffering shoulder injury during the match ... Defeated long-time rival Sabu at Barely Legal in a respect match, but he lost his manager afterward when Bill Alfonso joined Sabu and Rob Van Dam and attacked him ... Arguably the strongest technical wrestler in ECW ... Also trains students at ECW's "House Of Hardcore" training school.

**12 ULTIMO DRAGON** (5'7", 173, 10, 41) WAR promotion superstar made the move to WCW last year, where he captured first the cruiserweight title, then the TV title ... Has had superb matches with the likes of Dean Malenko and Rey Misterio Jr. ... Originator of the Asai moonsault prefers to finish his opponents with the La Magistral cradle ... Several injuries have kept the him from touring for extended periods ... Held the J-Crown for three months before losing it to Jushin Liger at the Tokyo Dome early in '97 ... Briefly held nine titles simultaneously ... Among the pure high-flyers, few are better than Dragon.

**13 KEVIN NASH** (7', 356, 7, 6) One-half of the WCW World tag team champions with Scott Hall ... Also integral member of the NWO ... Held the WWF World title for almost a year ... Also held the WWF Intercontinental and World tag belts with Shawn Michaels ... Number one in the "500" in 1995 ... Has become known for his interviews that often involve more personal than wrestling related issues ... One of the most charismatic wrestlers in the sport ... Wrestled under the names Oz, Vinnie Vegas, and Diesel, and was one-half of the Master Blasters.

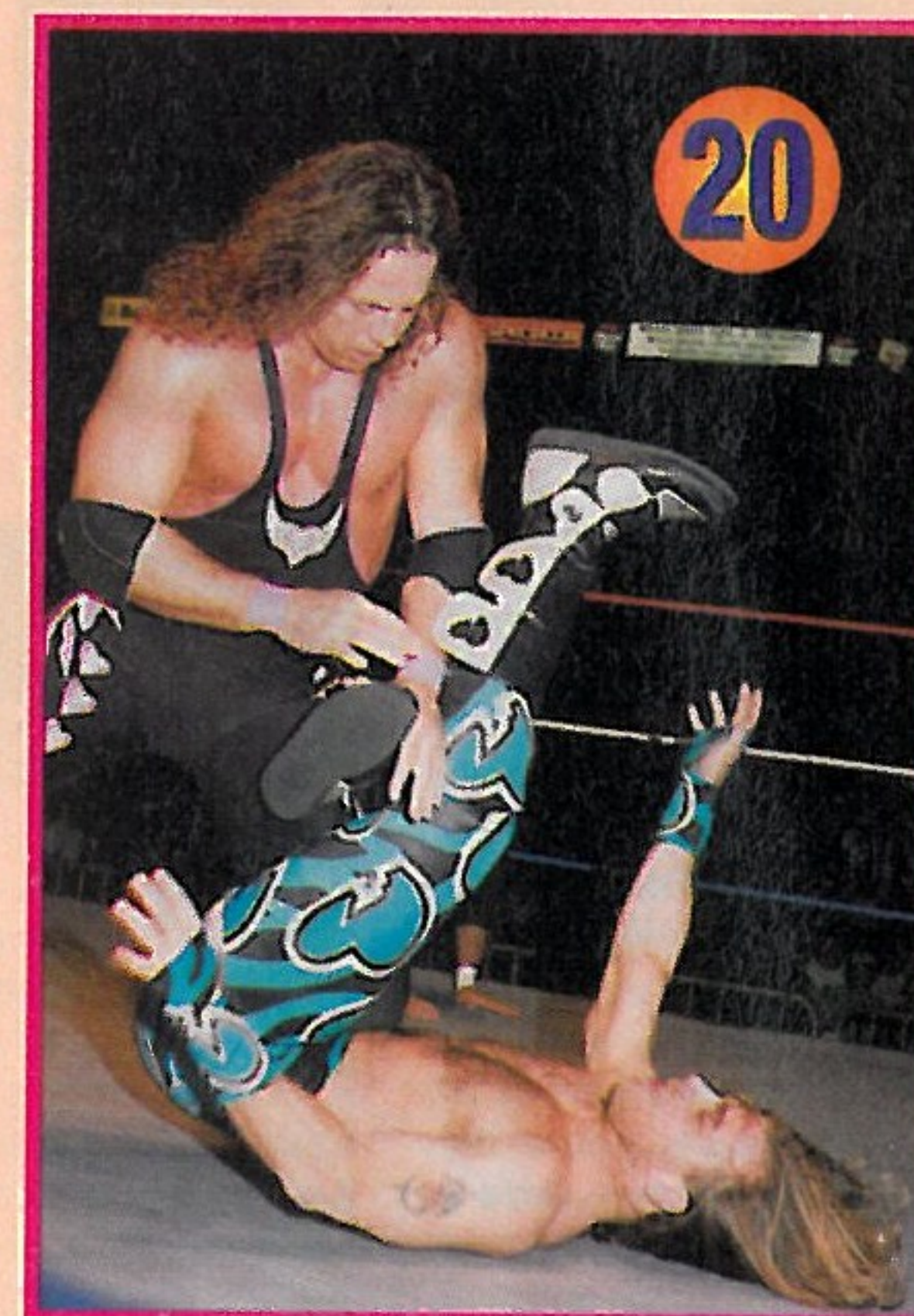
**14 TOSHIAKI KAWADA** (5'10", 230, 16, 62) Won this year's All Japan Champion's Carnival by beating both Kenta Kobashi and Mitsuahara Misawa in the finals ... Frequent tag team partner of Akira Taue ... Destroys opponents with his hard kicks to the face and head ... Easily recognized by his trademark yellow and black tights ... Favorite maneuver is the "Back Drop Driver," in which he knocks out his opponents by dropping them on the base of the neck.

**15 KENTA KOBASHI** (6'2", 261, 9, 4) "Orange Crush" had a tough year ... Lost the Triple Crown to Mitsuahara Misawa after a short reign last year ... Lost the finals of the All Japan Champion's Carnival to Toshiaki Kawada ... Took his first win ever over Misawa in the league portion of the Champion Carnival before going to a grueling half-hour draw with him in the finals ... His "Orange Bomb" is a brainbuster turned power bomb ... Loves to wear down opponents with lariats and chops to the neck.

**16 OWEN HART** (5'10", 227, 11, 33) Former WWF World tag team champion with brother-in-law Davey Boy Smith ... Is now part of The Hart Foundation with brother Bret, Davey Boy, and Brian Pillman after a tearful reunion with estranged brother Bret ... Superb all-around ability, but the whiner in The Hart Foundation ... Won the Intercontinental title from Rocky Maivia ... Once wrestled as the Blue Blazer in the WWF.

**17 JEFF JARRETT** (5'10", 230, 11, 26) This second-generation wrestler achieved his goal of becoming a Horseman earlier this year ... Since then, he has split from the Horsemen and is now feuding with former partner Steve McMichael, and has Debra McMichael in his corner ... A skilled wrestler, he hasn't found his rhythm since joining WCW ... Recently won the WCW U.S. heavyweight title from Dean Malenko.

**18 SHAWN MICHAELS** (6', 234, 14, 1) There's been a lot of heartbreak for the "Heartbreak Kid" this year ... Between knee injuries and self-imposed walkouts, he hasn't spent much time in the ring ... Lost WWF World title to "Psycho" Sid after getting booed during his entrance ... Female fans still adore him, though, especially after his *Playgirl* pictorial ... Still feuding with Bret Hart, but injuries have kept their war limited to words ... Former AWA tag team champ with Marty Jannetty ... Has started to vent his bratty, selfish side during interviews and has verbally berated Vince McMahon.



Hart can't stomach Americans

**19 RANDY SAVAGE** (6'2", 237, 23, 21) Former WWF and WCW champion was absent from the ring for a stretch, and was actually hanging out in the rafters with Sting ... Turned against Sting and joined the NWO ... The absence from the ring actually helped Savage, increasing his intensity in the ring ... His feud with "Diamond" Dallas Page is one of the most brutal the sport has ever seen ... Elizabeth is back at his side and looks happy to be causing trouble with him.

**20 BRET HART** (5'11", 234, 21, 16) "Hitman" is now in his fifth reign as WWF World champion ... Started an anti-America

campaign, claiming that Canada is the best there is, the best there was, the best there ever will be ... "Sharpshooter" finisher is still his deadliest move ... Defeated The Undertaker at SummerSlam to win the title, but he got some inadvertant help from rival Shawn Michaels in doing so ... Feuded with Shawn all year long, but has been laid up with knee and wrist injuries, so the two haven't met in the ring recently ... Used to be confident and a little conceited; now he's just conceited and bitter.

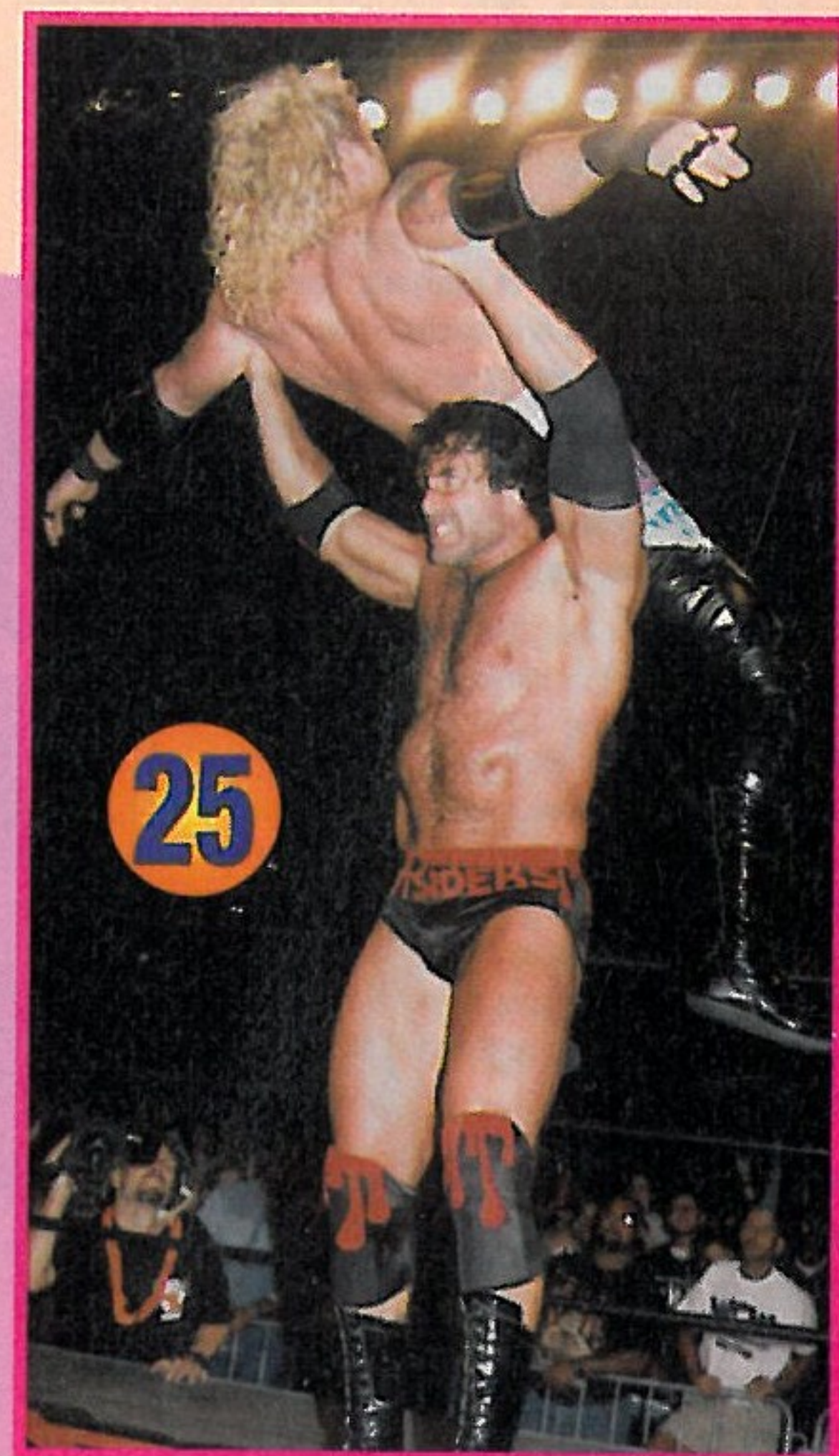
**21 SYXX** (6'2", 212, 8, 203) Became a member of the NWO and won the cruiserweight title ... Lost that title to Chris Jericho ... Stole two WCW titles as a member of the NWO ... Formerly known as the 1-2-3 Kid ... Wrestled ladder matches against Eddy Guerrero and has fought with Dean Malenko ... Has an interesting array of aerial skills ... Is becoming known for his classless remarks during television interviews.

**22 DAVEY BOY SMITH** (5'9", 245, 20, 24) The former partner of the Dynamite Kid is the first WWF European champion ... With brothers-in-law Bret and Owen Hart, he reformed the core of The Hart Foundation ... Won the WWF World tag team title with Owen Hart ... In the middle of The Hart Foundation's feud with the rest of the WWF, in particular Steve Austin, Ken Shamrock, and Shawn Michaels ... Has become much more aggressive since he started listening to the anti-American rhetoric of Bret.

**23 GREAT SASUKE** (5'8", 180, 7, 23) Superstar of Michinoku Pro made his American PPV debut this year at ECW's "Barely Legal" ... Slowed down lately after fracturing skull in Japan ... Tremendously popular in his homeland, where he is called the "North Eastern Hero" ... Was the inaugural J-Crown champion ... Lost the title to Ultimo Dragon last October ... Has the sport's most graceful Asai moonsault, called the "quebrada" ... Feuding with Dick Togo's "Kaientai DX" team ... Likes to finish opponents with his "Thunder Fire Power Bomb."

**24 EDDY GUERRERO** (5'8", 231, 10, 29) One of the most well-rounded wrestlers in the sport, Guerrero can fly, wrestle, and brawl ... Spent much of the year recovering from sporadic injuries that impeded his momentum ... Has continued to feud with Dean Malenko ... Undergoing peculiar attitude change and has inexplicably targeted nephew Chavo Jr.

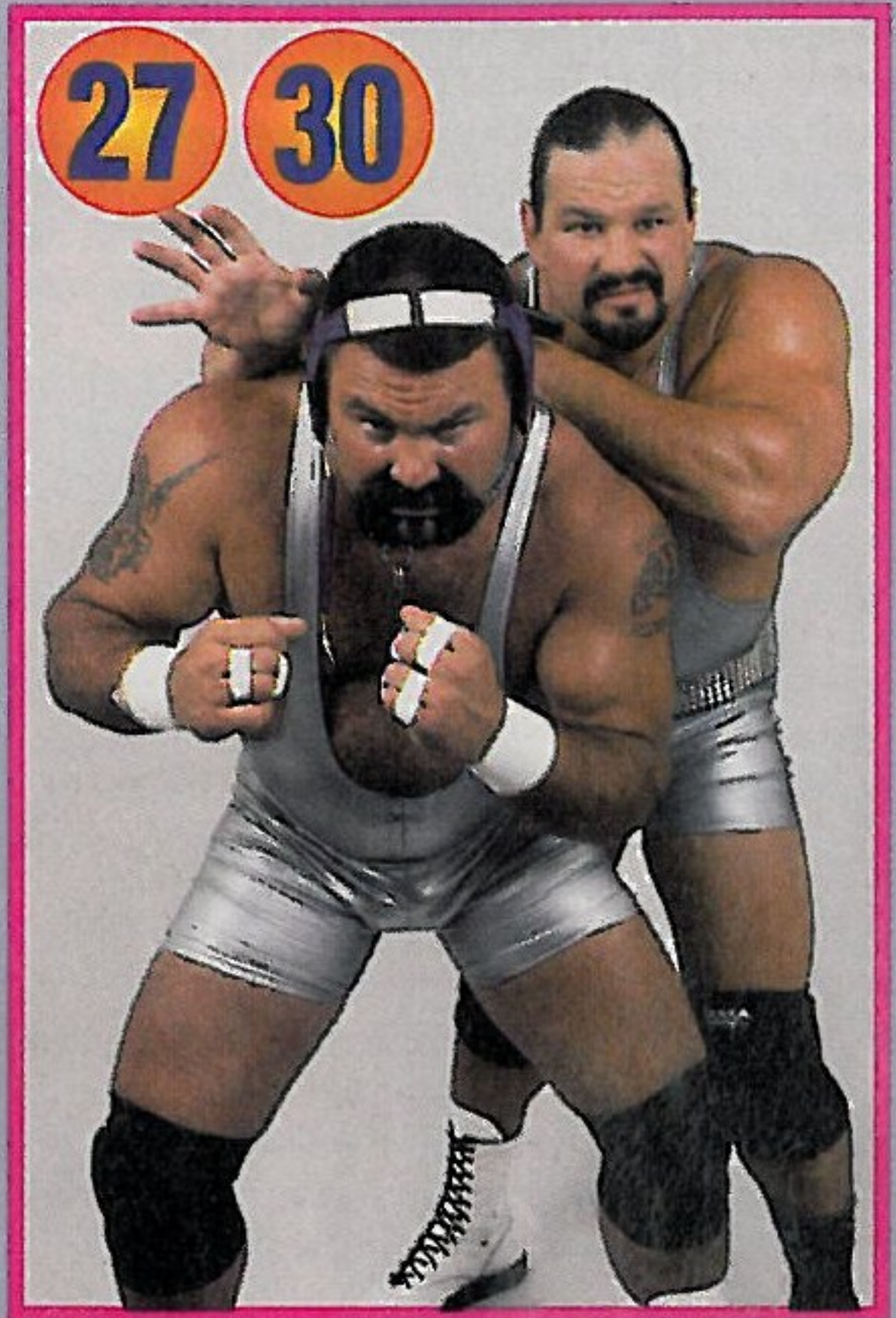
**25 SCOTT HALL** (6'8", 287, 13, 34) One of the co-founders of the NWO, Hall spent part of the year on the sidelines due to personal problems ... Holds the WCW World tag team title with close personal friend Kevin Nash ... Held the AWA tag team title with Curt Hennig in the mid-1980s ... Wrestled in the WWF as Razor Ramon ... Was once known as The Diamond Stud ... Height provides him with tremendous leverage ... Likes toothpicks.



On his way to the Hall of Fame



**26 CHRIS JERICO** (5'10", 225, 6, 42) Though he's only been wrestling for six years, Jericho has seen top competition in WCW, ECW, SMW and Japan's WAR and FMW ... Has had some trouble acclimating to WCW's level of competition, but shows tremendous amount of promise ... Combines good ground offense with some flying ... Won the WCW cruiserweight title from Syxx and Alex Wright this year ... Is a heartthrob to many female fans ... Father is former NHL player Ted Irvine.



Rick and Scott Steiner are still awe-inspiring

**27 RICK STEINER** (5'11" 248, 13, 30) A good singles wrestler, Rick prefers tag team wrestling with his younger brother Scott ... The Steiners are arguably the best team in the sport's history ... Though smaller than Scott, Rick is actually considered the tougher of the two brothers ... Has a solid amateur wrestling background ... Is respected by other wrestlers for his unwillingness to take a backward step ... Nicknamed "Dogfaced Gremlin."

**28 MASAHIRO CHONO** (5'11", 238, 14, 59) Leader of the international NWO movement in New Japan ... Former tag team partner of Hiroyoshi Tenzan ... Gained some impressive wins over Chris Jericho earlier in the year ... Spent a good deal of 1997 trying to persuade Keiji Muto to join forces with him ... Master of the STF, a hold he learned from its originator, Lou Thesz ... Graduated from the wrestling academy in New Japan alongside Shinya Hashimoto, Keiji Muto, and Jushin Liger ... Has taken many victories with his Yakuza kick to the face.

**29 REY MISTERIO JR.** (5'3", 140, 6, 7) The most spectacular high-flyer in the sport, Misterio has been known to change a move in mid-air ... His matches with Ultimo Dragon, Psicosis, and Juventud Guerrera are dazzling aerial exhibitions ... The high-impact nature of Misterio's offense has taken its toll on his knees, but Misterio has been wrestling through the pain, quite possibly putting his career in jeopardy ... Considered by many to be the most awe-inspiring athlete in the sport.

**30 SCOTT STEINER** (6'1", 235, 12, 15) Won the WCW tag team belts with brother Rick, only to have them stripped by then-WCW Senior Vice President and NWO leader Eric Bischoff ... Perfected the Frankensteiner, formerly called the "Mata headscissors" and now called the huracanrana ... Missed part of the year due to an abdominal injury ... Has been feuding with the NWO and Harlem Heat.

**31 HUNTER HEARST HELMSLEY** (6'5", 279, 6, 79) Won the 1997 WWF King of the Ring tournament in controversial fashion ... Has been involved in a lengthy feud with Goldust ... Escorted to the ring by the muscular Chyna, a woman who backs down from no one, man or woman ... Refuses to take the blame for his losses, often blaming them on politics instead of his own shortcomings.

**32 ROB VAN DAM** (6', 227, 7, 51) Has garnered national acclaim since becoming "Mr. Monday Night" ... Almost never without manager Bill Alfonso ... Self-taught martial artist ... Split-legged moonsault is his finisher ... Has joined forces with Jerry Lawler in a war involving ECW, the WWF, and the USWA ... Frequently teams with Sabu ... Has spent much of his career wrestling in Japan.

**33 AKIRA TAUE** (6'5", 266, 9, 57) Former Triple Crown Champion turned his career around by defeating Mitsuhiro Misawa last year ... Held the All-Japan tag title with Toshiaki Kawada through May ... Chokeslam from the ring apron to the floor is feared throughout All-Japan ... Big man is tremendously powerful, but tires easily ... Stuns audiences by regularly throwing dropkicks ... Won the 1996 Champion Carnival, but didn't fare as well this past year ... The 35-year-old veteran still has a great career ahead of him.



Taue has hit his stride at 35

**34 SABU** (6', 220, 7, 9) Arguably the most suicidal wrestler in history ... Built reputation by participating in wild barbed-wire matches in Japan and using a daredevil style that few can emulate ... Lost a "respect match" to Taz at Barely Legal, but joined Rob Van Dam and Taz' then-manager Bill Alfonso and attacked Taz after the match ... Wrestled briefly in WCW and showed up on the WWF's *Monday Night Raw* this summer.

**35 RIC FLAIR** (6'1", 243, 24, 10) Spent 4½ months out of the ring with a shoulder injury ... Since Arn Anderson's neck surgery, appears to have lost some interest in the concept of The Four Horsemen ... Though Roddy Piper was in Flair's wedding party several years ago, the two have had a love/hate relationship for over a decade ... Has held a recognized world title more times than any other wrestler.

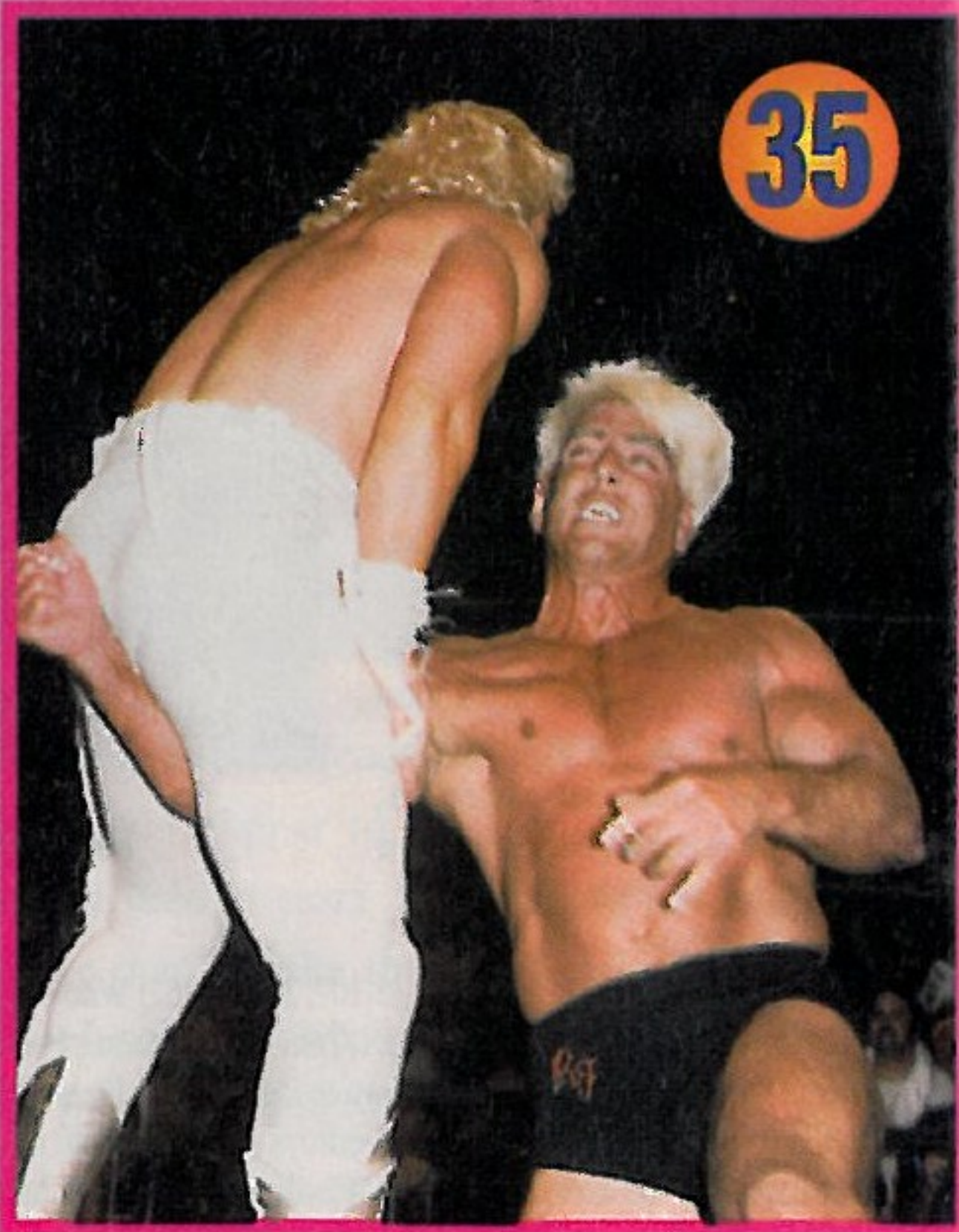
**36 KENSUKE SASAKI** (5'10", 270, 11, 70) Former WCW U.S. champion ... Still occasionally wrestles as The Power Warrior ... Husband of Akira Hokuto ... One of New Japan's top fan favorites ... Incredibly powerful athlete, and a master of complex submission holds ... Took a big win over Keiji Muto this past January ... Held the IWGP tag team title briefly with Riki Choshu ... Favorite move is the "Northern Lights Bomb."

**37 KEIJI MUTO** (6'1", 245, 13, 32) Still occasionally dons the face paint to become The Great Muta, but usually wrestles without it ... His involvement with the NWO has brought him back into the American spotlight ... Was voted the most popular wrestler in Japan ... Lost some momentum when he was pinned by Kensuke Sasaki at the Tokyo Dome last year ... Uses his "Dragon Screw" legdrag to set up the figure-four as Muto, but *Muta* prefers to finish off opponents with his magnificent moonsault press.

**38 KEN SHAMROCK** (6', 220, 8, 236) Entered the WWF with much fanfare after signing a lucrative contract ... Impressed immediately with a victory over Big Van Vader ... Called the most dangerous man alive ... Possesses an excellent belly-to-belly suplex ... Has won the Ultimate Fighting Championship and also competed in Pancrase ... Is dedicating himself to wrestling full-time now and should improve tremendously ... Nearly captured Bret Hart's WWF World title in August, with Hart saving his belt by disqualification.

**39 RAVEN** (6'1", 235, 10, 37) Former ECW heavyweight champion is now sulking in WCW, along with sidekick/lackey Stevie Richards ... Was in WCW before as Scotty Flamingo and he feuded with Johnny B. Badd ... Talks in a poetic cadence and always ends his bizarre monologues by quoting Edgar Allan Poe's poem "The Raven" ... Once in the ring, he goes from morose to maniacal and brutally beats on opponents ... Not a normal human.

**40 JUVENTUD GUERRERA** (5'5", 165, 5, 60) Another one of the great Mexican flyers to become a regular part of WCW ... Has an interesting relationship with Rey Misterio Jr.: Guerrero wrestles Misterio frequently, hoping to break out of his shadow, but he recently sided with Misterio against Konnan ... Competed in ECW before making his way to WCW ... Wrestles frequently in Promo Azteca.



Flair usually takes the low road

**41 GOLDUST** (6'5", 254, 10, 11) Since publicly admitting he is Dustin Rhodes, son of "The American Dream," Dusty Rhodes, Goldust has become one of the more popular wrestlers in the WWF ... Has incorporated some of his father's moves into his arsenal ... Has been feuding with Hunter Hearst Helmsley for quite some time ... At times a brilliant wrestler, his mind games still keep his opponents off balance.



Douglas continues to make a big splash in ECW

**42 SHANE DOUGLAS** (6', 223, 11, 20) "The Franchise" has really showed his mean streak since returning to ECW ... Won his third ECW heavyweight title by beating Terry Funk and Sabu at the Hardcore Heaven pay-per-view ... His "head cheerleader," Francine, is just as devious as he ... Takes pride in the fact that he broke Pit Bull I's neck ... Briefly competed in the WWF as Dean Douglas, but didn't have much success.

**43 NOBUHIKO TAKADA** (6'1", 230, 14, 36) Still one of Japan's top draws ... Had a tremendous battle with Shinya Hashimoto over the IWGP heavyweight title ... Former UWFI champion ... Famed for taking a win over Big Van Vader via submission in 1993 ... Likes to devastate opponents with his swift, powerful kicks ... Favorite finisher is the cross-chest armbreaker.

**44 VOLK HAN** (6'3", 229, 6, NL) Had a tremendous year and has thus staked his claim as the top wrestler in the RINGS promotion in Japan ... Won the annual RINGS tournament this January, beating Kiyoshi Tamura in the finals ... The Russian-born Han is a master of submission holds ... Always dangerous in a match, Han may be at his best when his opponent thinks Han is in trouble ... Possesses an amazing ability to counter almost any hold and turn it into a submission hold of his own.

**45 FAAROOQ** (6'2", 260, 11, 121) The leader of the Nation of Domination tried to become the first black WWF champion this year, but he came up short in his bid to unseat The Undertaker ... Since then he has had to focus his attention on the NOD ... Fired every original member of the group except D-Lo Brown, then added Ahmed Johnson and Kama Mustafa to the mix (Ahmed has since left the group) ... Is the only black wrestler ever to win the WCW World heavyweight championship ... A former college football standout at Florida State.

**46 BIG VAN VADER** (6'5", 450, 12, 14) One of the nastiest individuals in wrestling, this former WCW World champion was arrested in Kuwait for attacking the host of a television program ... Started a feud with Ultimate Fighting Champion Ken Shamrock and was defeated by Shamrock in Shamrock's first big WWF match ... Though he has won three WCW World titles and one U.S. title, he has not yet worn any gold in the WWF ... Not as intimidating as he once was.

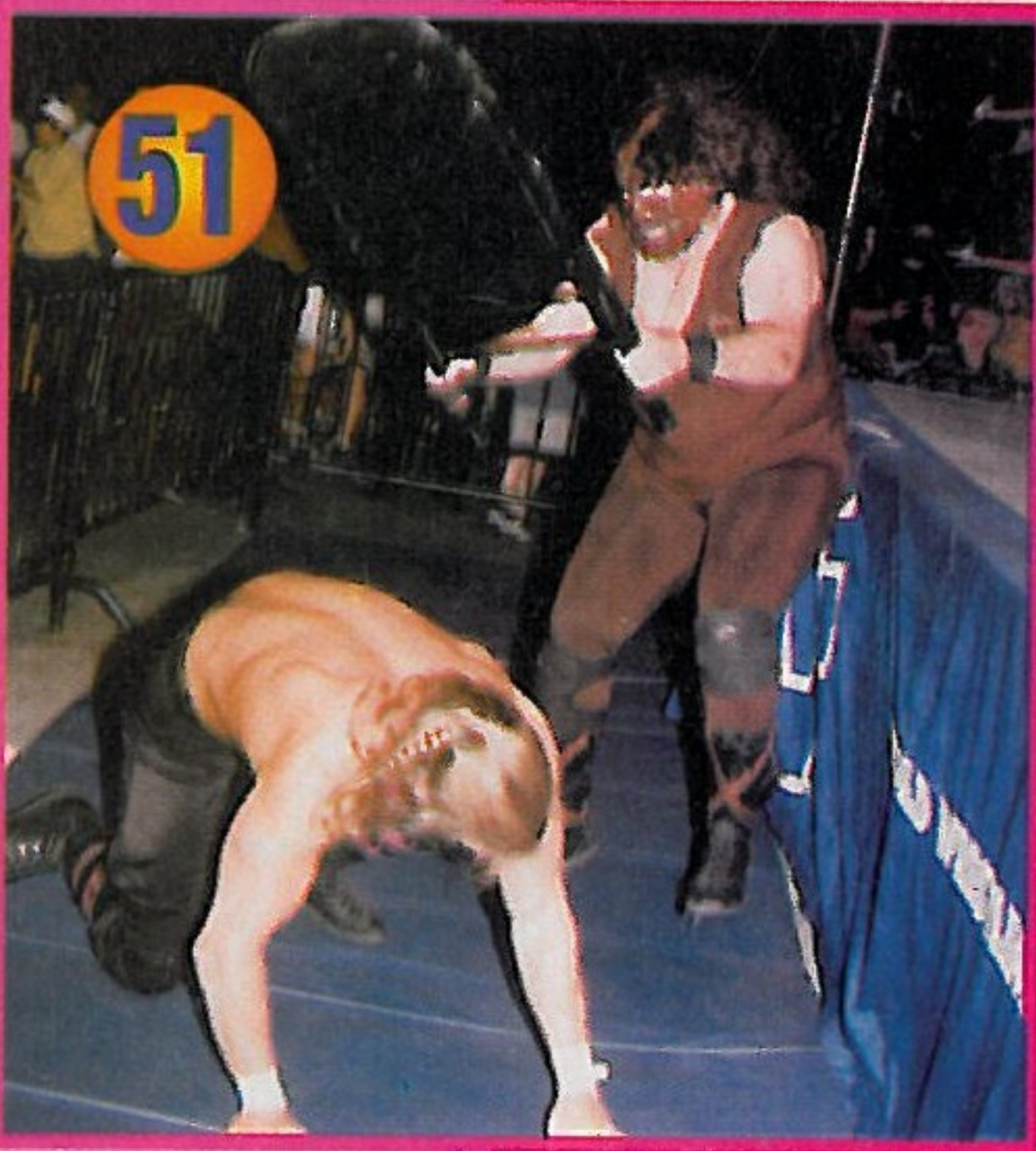
**47 NEGRO CASAS** (5'7", 180, 18, 78) Had a successful tour of Japan earlier this year and picked up a big win over Hijo Del Santo while there ... A strong fan favorite in his hometown of Mexico City ... Arguably Mexico's top mat technician ... Brother of Heavy Metal and Felino ... Now teaming with Felino after years of feuding with him ... Former NWA welterweight champion.

**48 TOMMY DREAMER** (6'3", 245, 8, 44) Is embroiled in a war with Rob Van Dam, Sabu, and Jerry Lawler that is being fought in ECW and the USWA ... Always has Beulah McGillicutty at his side ... Great brawler who seems to have no respect for the well-being of his body ... Willing to take a lot of abuse just to get in a few good punches ... Has assumed the role of the defender of ECW ... Stepped aside so Terry Funk could have a chance to wrestle for the ECW heavyweight title at ECW Barely Legal this April ... Uses the DDT as a finisher.

**49 JERRY LAWLER** (6', 234, 27, 22) Though not as active as in years past, "The King" remains one of the smartest and sneakiest wrestlers in the game ... The quick-witted Lawler has been known to infuriate wrestlers and fans alike with his commentary on WWF broadcasts ... Probably hates ECW more than anyone alive ... Won't say whether or not he is the father of Brian Christopher ... Has won the USWA heavyweight title 27 times.

**50 "PSYCHO" SID VICIOUS** (6'8", 318, 10, 34) Highlight of the year for Sid was winning his first WWF World title by beating Shawn Michaels at Survivor Series ... Lost the title back to Michaels in Michaels' hometown of San Antonio at the Royal Rumble, then regained it by beating Bret Hart in February ... Left the WWF again just before press time ... Looks out for one person: himself ... Teamed with Dan Spivey to form the original Skyscrapers ... Loves to play softball.

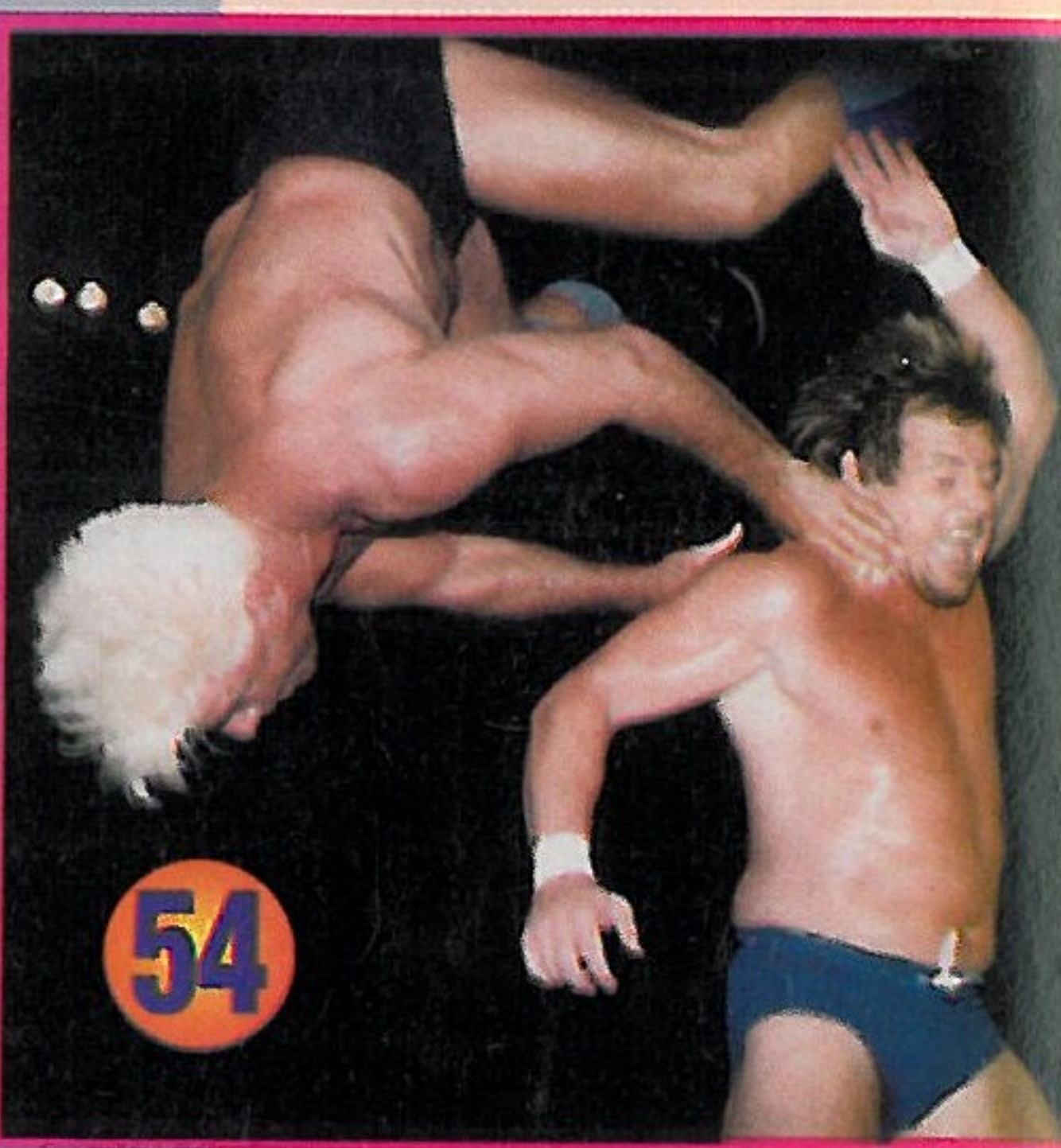
**51 MANKIND** (6'4", 277, 14, 45) The former Cactus Jack is addicted to pain: He'll take it and dish it out ... Despite his freakish appearance, he is a student of professional wrestling, having studied films of wrestling since he was a teenager ... Perhaps the most dangerous wrestler in the WWF because he doesn't care about his opponents or himself ... Was trained by Dominic DeNucci and trained with Shane Douglas ... Alter-ego Dude Love is a co-holder of the WWF World tag team title with Steve Austin ... Is rumored to be a good kisser.



Mankind is not a kind man

**52 PSICOSIS** (5'10", 200, 6, 39) One of the flashiest high-flyers around, Psicosis regularly lights up *Monday Nitro* telecasts ... Trained with Rey Misterio Jr. and has been involved in a long-running feud with him ... Still wrestles regularly in Mexico and has experience in ECW ... Signed with manager Sonny Ono this summer, but has yet to show he can win consistently in WCW.

**53 AHMED JOHNSON** (6'4", 305, 6, 5) One of the most powerful men in the WWF, Ahmed has been plagued by injuries during the last 12 months ... Most recently injured his knee ... Turned his back on the fans and joined the Nation of Domination in June, choosing to play the race card rather than the talent card to explain why he hadn't been a contender for the WWF title ... Was attacked by the rest of the NOD in August, so now he's apparently a fan favorite again.



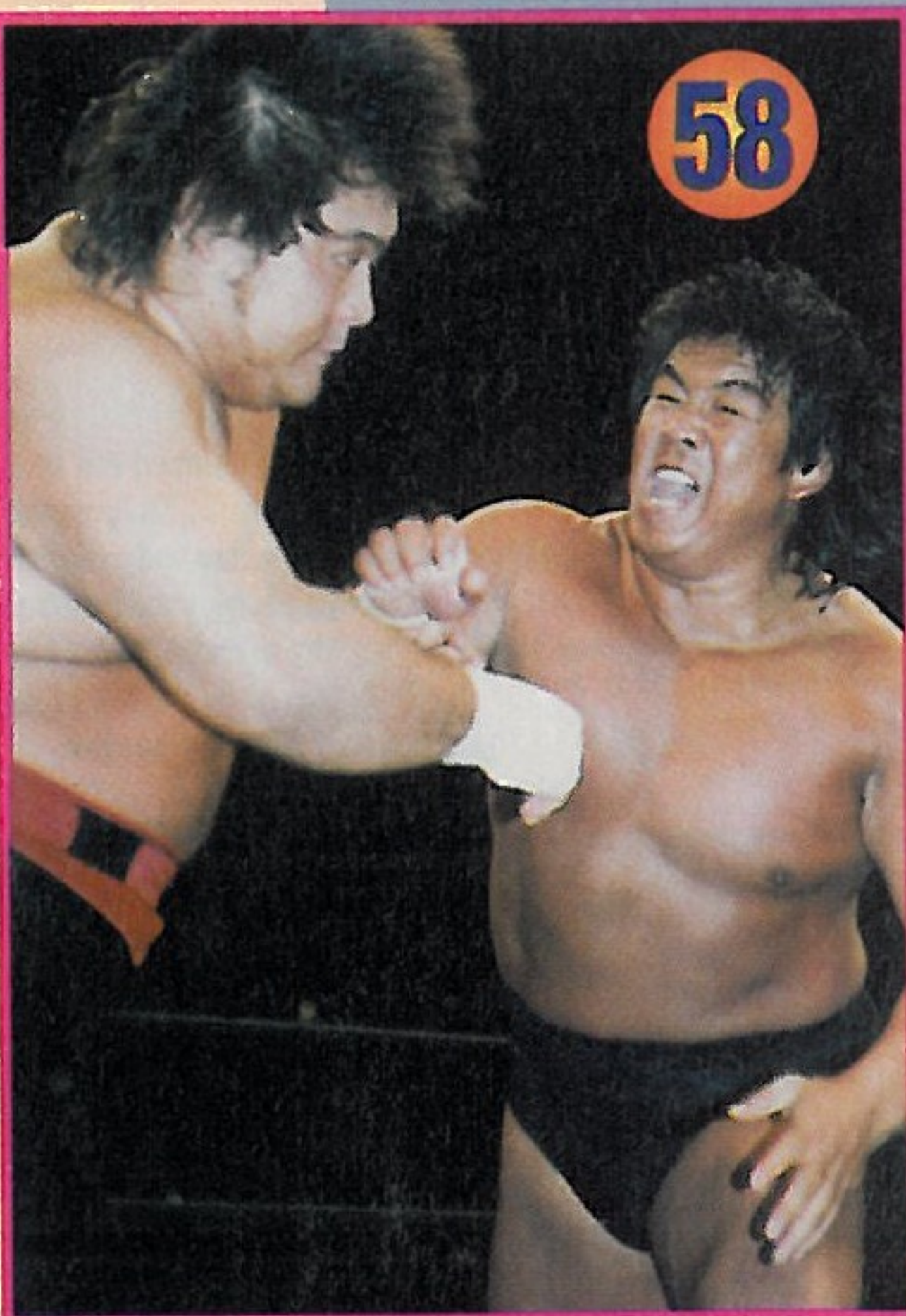
Piper made a remarkable comeback

**54 RODDY PIPER** (6'2", 247, 23, NL) After spending years in semi-retirement, Piper was far more active this past year ... Beat WCW World champion Hulk Hogan with a sleeperhold in a non-title bout at Starrcade '96 ... Teamed with Ric Flair for a while in matches against the NWO ... Predictably, the tag team didn't last long, as Flair and Piper always eventually fight with each other ... His interviews are among the strangest in wrestling and are sometimes very difficult to understand.

**55 HULK HOGAN** (6'8", 275, 18, 8)

Though he's once again WCW World champion, the leader of the NWO will undoubtedly almost never defend his title ... Will probably wrestle Sting eventually, but exactly when is anybody's guess ... Accumulated injuries have slowed Hogan down, and he needs the support of his NWO thugs to win matches ... As has been typical for the past few years, Hogan has spent too much time worrying about movies and not enough time focusing on wrestling ... Five-time WWF World champ was the first IWGP heavyweight champion.





Choshu's looking at retirement

**56 STEELE** (6'2", 260, 3, NL) Won the CMLL heavyweight title from Rayo de Jalisco Jr. just one month after making his pro debut ... Also won the Grand Prix tournament just one week earlier ... Reminds some people of Lex Luger in his formative years ... Favorite maneuver is the top-rope splash.

**57 STEVE WILLIAMS** (6'2", 271, 14, 68) An inconsistent year for "Dr. Death" ... Won the All-Japan tag team title with Johnny Ace last September, but they lost the belts to Toshiaki Kawada and Akira Taue this January ... Ace later split with Doc, but Doc got revenge by teaming with Gary Albright to take the All-Japan tag title from Ace and Kenta Kobashi ... His backdrop driver remains one of the most dangerous moves in wrestling ... Some subpar performances in ECW and Japan have many thinking he's slowing down.

**58 RIKI CHOSHU** (6'1", 253, 23, 89) Won the 1996 G-1 Climax Tournament, defeating Shinya Hashimoto, Kensuke Sasaki, Masahiro Chono, and Hiroyoshi Tenzan ... Teamed with his protegee Sasaki to win the IWGP tag title earlier this year ... Has announced he will wrestle a limited schedule during the rest of 1997, then retire after the January 4, 1998, Tokyo Dome show ... Changed the course of Japanese wrestling by turning against Antonio Inoki and Tatsumi Fujinami in October 1982 ... Used the move now called the "Scorpion deathlock" or "sharpshooter" to win his first pro match on August 8, 1974.

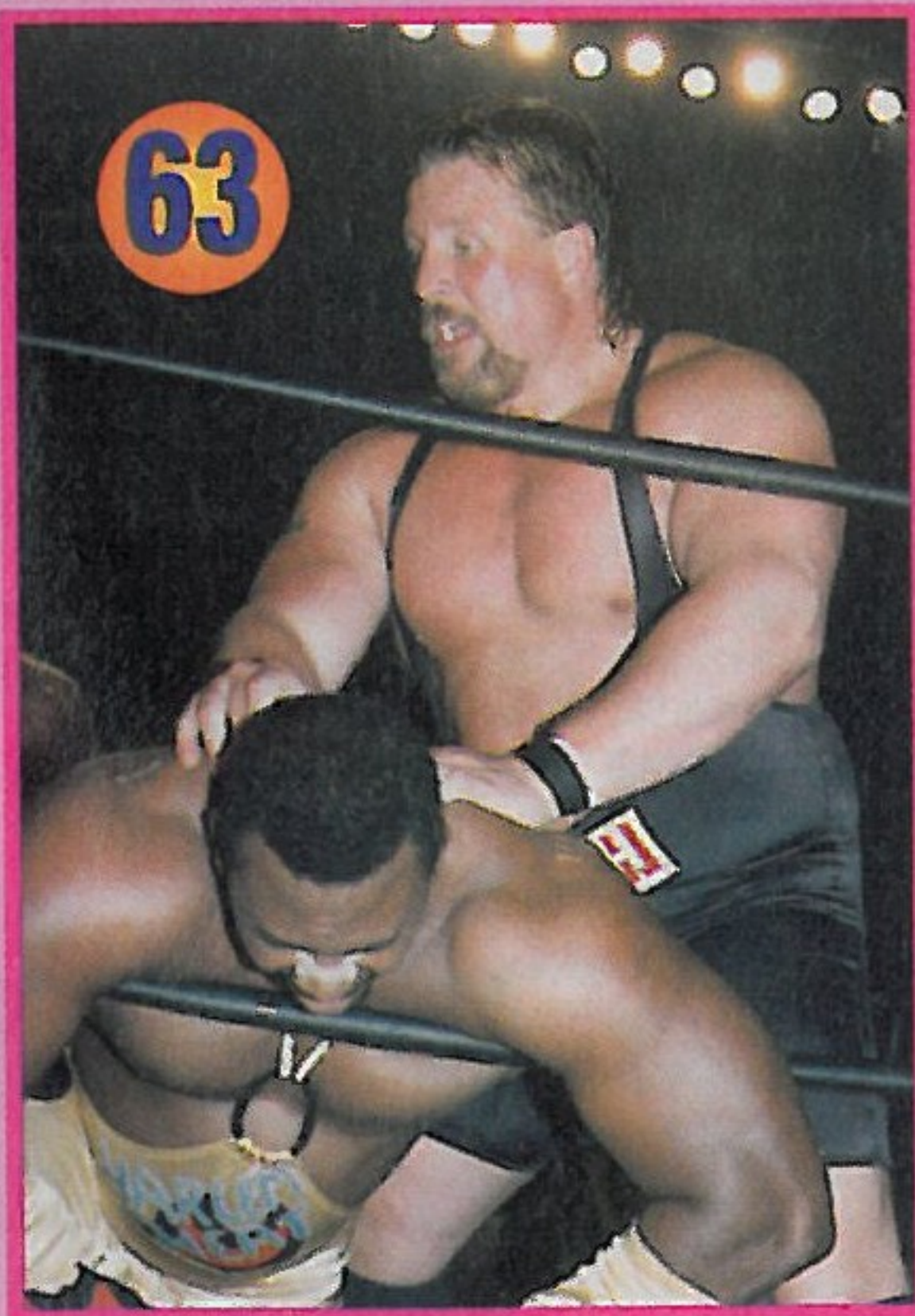
**59 BRIAN CHRISTOPHER** (5'10", 230, 9, 64) Former USWA Southern champion is now starting to make an impact in the WWF light heavyweight division ... Feuding with Scott Putski in the WWF ... Has also joined Jerry Lawler in his feud with ECW's Tommy Dreamer and The Sandman ... Despite his hectic schedule outside the USWA, he still finds time to challenge for the Southern belt ... Won't say if he's Jerry Lawler's son ... Nickname is "Too Sexy."

**60 TERRY FUNK** (6'1", 247, 32, 143) Won the ECW heavyweight title at ECW Barely Legal from Raven after winning a triangle match against Stevie Richards and The Sandman the same night ... Lost the title to Sabu in August ... Former NWA World heavyweight champion ... Tough brawler is a legend in both America and Japan ... Loves barbed-wire matches ... Said at press time that his last U.S. match would be September 11 and that he'd retire after a farewell tour of Japan.

**61 LA PARKA** (6'1", 235, 10, 73) "The Man Of A Thousand Bones" is another Mexican wrestler struggling to make an impact on WCW ... WCW broadcasters dubbed him the "chairman" of WCW because he loves to hit foes with chairs ... Also competes in Promo Azteca ... Has sided with Rey Mysterio Jr. in a feud against Konnan in WCW ... Former Mexican light heavyweight champion ... Also wrestled in AAA and ECW in the past.

**62 STAN HANSEN** (6'5", 309, 24, 66) Although he's 48, Hansen still has the ability to connect with his lariat at any time, so he's still a dangerous man ... Pushed Kenta Kobashi to the limit last September in a match for the All-Japan Triple Crown ... Had another strong showing in this year's Champions Carnival tournament, pinning Toshiaki Kawada, Johnny Ace, Gary Albright, and Akira Taue ... The most successful American in the history of Japanese wrestling, he has won 10 singles titles, 11 tag titles, four World Tag League championships, and the 1992 and 1993 Champions Carnival tournaments.

**63 SCOTT NORTON** (6'3", 360, 8, 100) Another WCW wrestler who figured joining the NWO would be the boost his career needed ... Has been very successful wrestling in Japan, but has yet to make a huge impact in the United States ... Considered one of the NWO tough guys, he is something of a policeman for the organization ... Teams regularly with Marcus Bagwell as Vicious and Delicious ... Years ago challenged Hulk Hogan to an arm-wrestling match, but Hogan never accepted.



Norton's power game works best in Japan

**64 SAVIO VEGA** (5'11", 250, 13, 49) An up-and-down year for Vega ... Joined the Nation of Domination in an effort to rise above mid-card status in the WWF ... His stint with the NOD was somewhat successful, but Faarooq kicked him and Crush out when they couldn't stop arguing ... Formed a gang called Los Boriquas and is now feuding with the NOD and Crush's Disciples of Apocalypse.

**65 HIJO DEL SANTO** (5'6", 170, 14, 63) After a long feud with Negro Casas, he is now feuding with Casas' brother Felino ... Former NWA welterweight and National welterweight champ ... Lost WWA welterweight title to Felino on July 4 in Mexico City ... Most expect his feud with Felino to culminate in a mask vs. mask match.

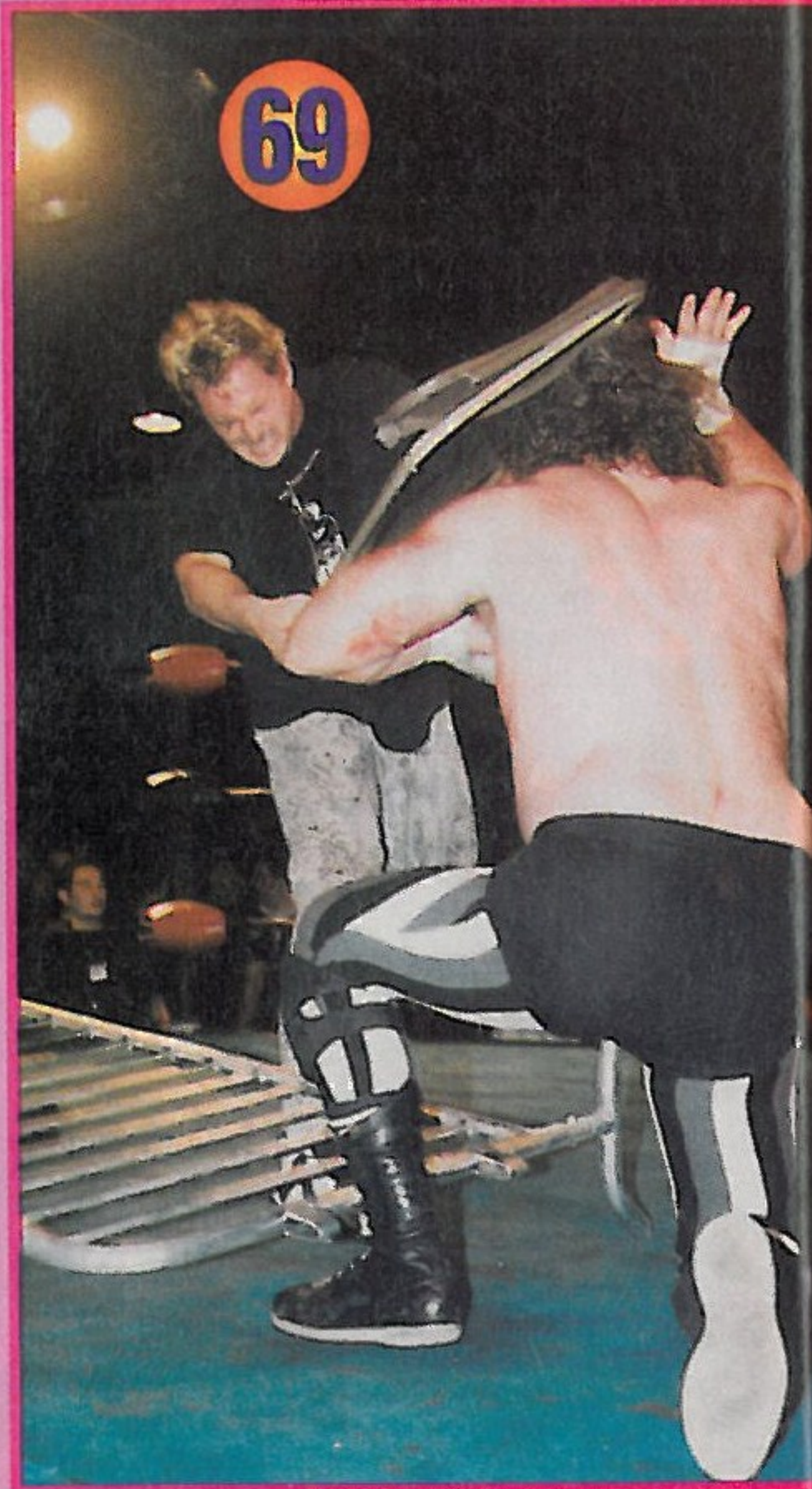
**66 STEVIE RICHARDS** (6'2", 225, 5, 97) This goofball finally matured into a solid wrestler with great potential in ECW early this year, but he recently signed with WCW, where he is feuding with Raven ... Suffered a string of injuries in ECW before leaving, most notably a broken neck ... His superkick (Stevie-kick) is a powerful finisher ... Used to be the leader of ECW's Blue World Order.

**67 PERRO AGUAYO SR.** (5'10", 215, 28, 58) Cunning veteran is loved in Mexico ... Teamed with former rival Pierroth Jr. for a while, but he and valet Janet ultimately turned against Perro ... Has held titles throughout Mexico ... Son is now wrestling in Mexico, too.

**68 GENICHIRO TENRYU** (6'2", 275, 21, 115) An inconsistent year for the kingpin of the WAR promotion ... Lost a major match last September to Nobuhiko Takada in front of more than 35,000 fans ... Came back to beat both Takada and Keiji Muto later in 1996 ... Recently spoke of wanting to face his former protegee, All-Japan's Toshiaki Kawada, in a singles match.

**69 THE SANDMAN** (6'3", 244, 8, 65) This chain-smoking beer-guzzler is one of the most popular wrestlers in ECW ... Spent much of the year in a brutal feud with Raven, who had Sandman's ex-wife, Lori Fullington, and son, Tyler, under his evil spell ... Still loves to whack opponents with his rattan cane ... Does this almost as often as he smashes a beer can on his own forehead, causing himself to bleed ... Mostly a brawler, he hasn't needed a lot of technical knowledge to thrive in ECW.

**70 FELINO** (5'7", 190, 15, NL) Has finally reunited with brother Negro Casas ... Has taken over Casas's feud with Hijo Del Santo ... Competes in EMLL ... Also the brother of Heavy Metal ... Father is AAA referee Pepe Casas.



The Sandman has his own set of rules



Things are brighter for Candido, sans Sunny

**71 CHRIS CANDIDO** (5'8", 226, 7, 69) Former WWF World tag team titleholder (as Bodydonna Skip) is now relying upon his technical skills to get recognition in ECW ... Joined with Shane Douglas and Bam Bam Bigelow there to form the new Triple Threat ... No longer has Tammy "Sunny" Fytch as his manager, but she has been seen hanging out with him in public ... Claims he doesn't need to change his name and wear flashy outfits to be a successful wrestler.

**72 KIYOSHI TAMURA** (5'11", 205, 9, NL) This 27-year-old is a rising star in RINGS ... Debuted with the Japanese UWF in 1989, but really made his mark with its successor group, UWFI ... Has been compared to Nobuhiko Takada ... Made a big leap forward with a gutsy performance against Vader in the semifinals of UWFI's 1994 World Challenge tournament ... Charged through the field in RINGS annual tournament before being stopped by Volk Han in the final ... When on his feet, he's a tremendous striker with fast kicks and palm blows; when on the mat, he's nimble and able to quickly turn opponents' holds into submission holds of his own.

**73 JOHN KRONUS** (6'4", 256, 8, 88) One-half of The Eliminators, he recently lost his partner, Perry Saturn, to a torn ACL ... After Saturn was hurt, he defended the ECW tag team title by himself against the top teams of the promotion, but eventually lost it to D-Von and Buh Buh Ray Dudley ... Often uses his excellent acrobatic skills and technical skills to unnerve opponents in the ring ... Lost several matches to ECW TV champ Taz ... Has formed an alliance with The Gangstas' New Jack.

**74 SATANICO** (5'8", 215, 23, NL) Current CMLL middleweight champion ... Feuded with Dandy for several months this year over that title ... Defeated Taka Michinoku in June for the independent junior heavyweight title ... Renewed 19-year-long feud with Lizmark this year ... Frequently teams with Apolo Dantes.

**75 GARY ALBRIGHT** (6'4", 352, 10, 102) The last year hasn't been the best for Albright in All-Japan ... Never challenged for titles in the second half of 1996, then teamed with Sabu in the World Tag League and had a terrible tournament ... Aimless

through much of 1997, but focused long enough to beat Steve Williams in the 1997 Champions Carnival ... Williams must have been impressed, as he teamed with Albright to win the All-Japan International and PWF tag titles in July ... Uses some of the most dangerous suplexes in wrestling ... Stamina and conditioning are questionable.

**76 PIT BULL II** (6'2", 238, 7, 77) One of the strongest men ever to compete in ECW ... Long-running feud with Shane Douglas intensified when Douglas put his partner, Pit Bull I, out of wrestling with a broken neck ... Douglas, Bam Bam Bigelow, and Chris Candido later combined to injure both Pit Bulls ... Former ECW tag team and TV champion won the MEWF heavyweight belt in August ... Managed by Francine before she turned against him and joined Douglas' camp ... Always carries his chain and dog collar to the ring.

**77 JOHNNY ACE** (6'4", 253, 10, 153) Had a good year in tag team matches, but is still looking to make his mark in singles ... He and Steve Williams finally won the All-Japan International and PWF tag titles last September and held the belts until January ... Turned in a disappointing performance in the Champions Carnival tourney, with his only big win being over Gary Albright ... Won the All-Japan International and PWF tag title with Kenta Kobashi in May ... Inventor of the "Ace Crusher," the forerunner of both the "Diamond cutter" and "Stone-Cold stunner" ... Favorite new finisher is the cobra clutch suplex.

**78 SUPER CALO** (5'10", 195, 5, 223) Another high-flying Mexican star from Promo Azteca currently competing in WCW ... Has found moderate success in WCW, but has been losing more than winning during the last few months ... More successful in his home country.

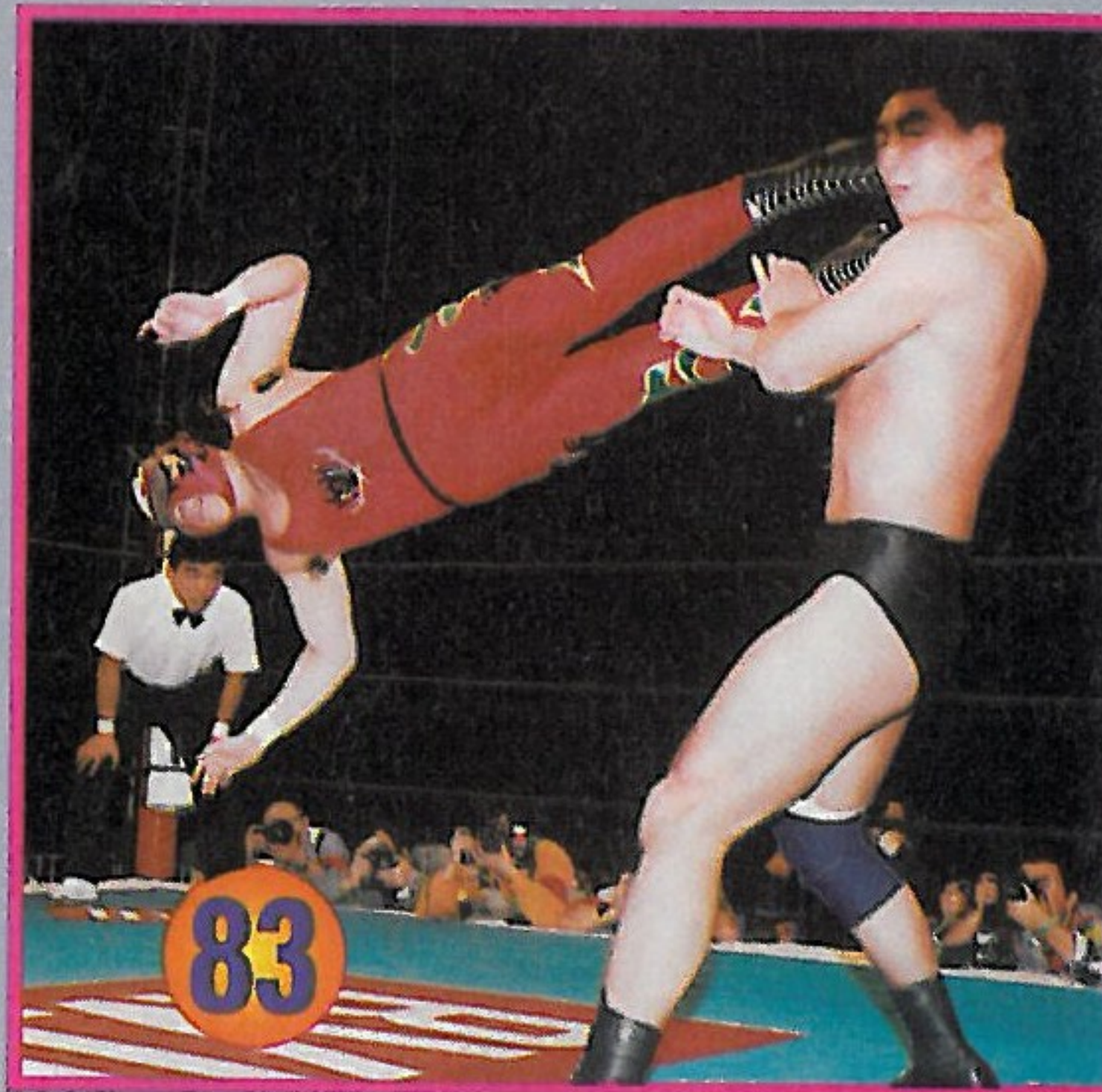
**79 JUN AKIYAMA** (6'2", 238, 5, 96) Made a huge leap forward in 1996 as Mitsuharu Misawa's regular tag team partner ... The team held the All-Japan and PWF tag titles for four months and went to the finals of the World Tag League, losing to top rivals Toshiaki Kawada and Akira Taue ... Scored the biggest win of his career in January by upsetting Taue in less than five minutes ... Save for a win over Johnny Ace, he struggled at this year's Champions Carnival this year ... Favorite finisher is his signature exploder suplex.

**80 STEVEN REGAL** (6'4", 247, 13, 56) Easily the best mat wrestler in WCW, Regal's matches are lessons in scientific wrestling ... Broke up his Blue Bloods tag team with Bobby Eaton last year and is again focused on singles competi-



Albright lacks direction

tion ... Feuded with Rey Mysterio Jr. for several months in '97 ... Beat Ultimo Dragon for the TV title in May, then lost it back to him in July ... Is one of the toughest guys in wrestling.



Samurai's career is on target

**81 TATSUMI FUJINAMI** (6'1", 238, 26, 76) Re-formed his legendary team with Kengo Kimura, and they shocked the wrestling world by winning the IWGP tag team title from Masahiro Chono and Hiroyoshi Tenzan in January ... The original IWGP tag team champions, Fujinami and Kimura had won the title on three prior occasions, then broke up after their last reign ended in 1988 ... The team then surprised critics by holding onto the belts until April ... Has held the IWGP heavyweight title a record five times, and the WWF junior heavyweight title ... Dubbed "The Dragon," he invented the Dragon suplex and the Dragon sleeper.

**82 DAN SEVERN** (6'1", 270, 6, 47) "The Beast" remains the NWA heavyweight champion ... Wins most of his matches by submission ... Had several memorable title defenses against former NWA champ Dory Funk Jr. ... Michigan native did guest commentary on one edition of the WWF's *Raw Is War*, leading many to speculate that he'll eventually end up going there to battle former UFC rival Ken Shamrock.

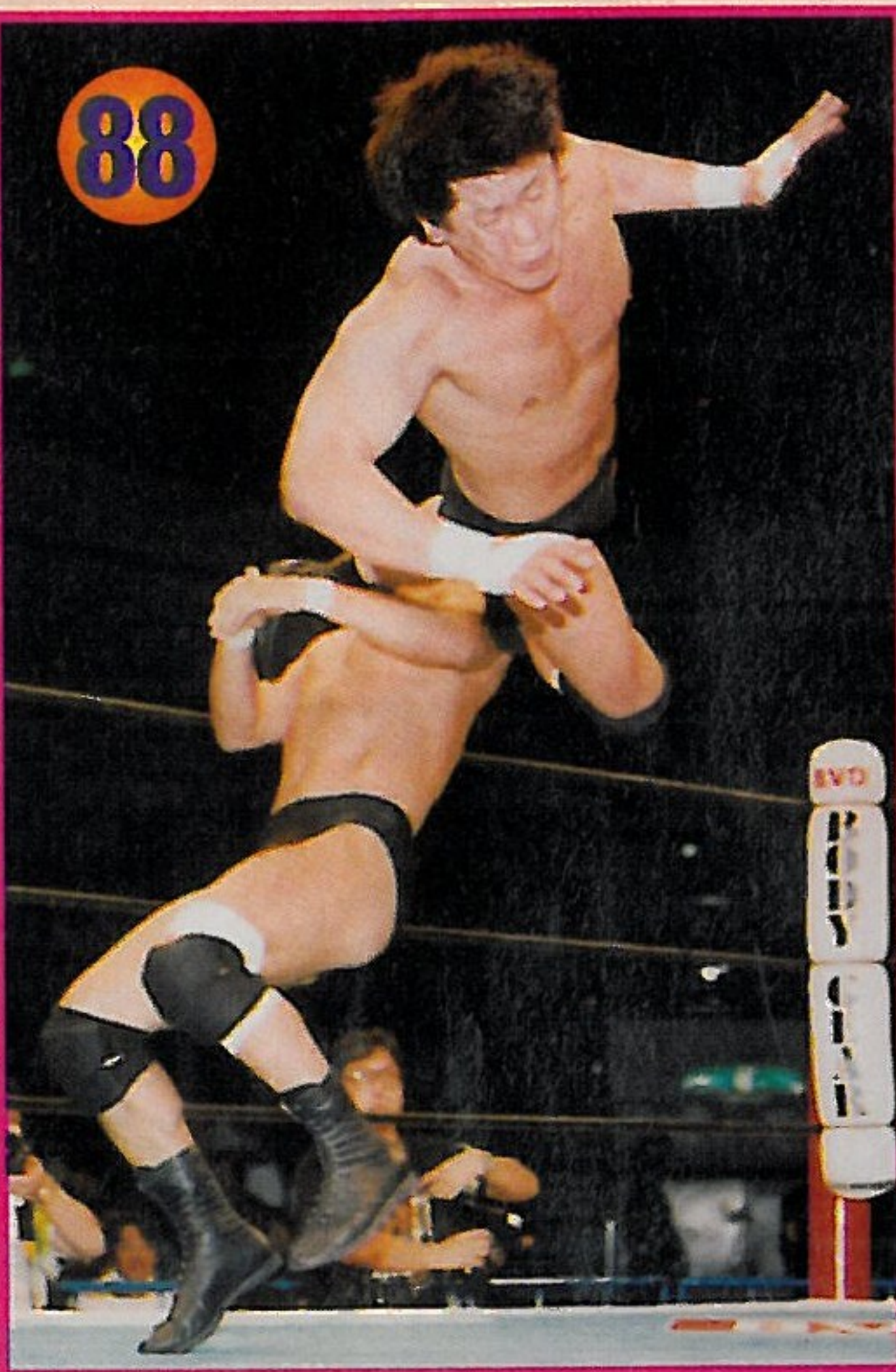
**83 EL SAMURAI** (5'11", 213, 11, 75) Went on a tear in the middle of 1997 ... Won New Japan's annual "Best Of The Super Junior" tourney over Koji Kanemoto in June, then pinned Jushin Liger in July to win the J-Crown ... Forms a regular team called the Junior Horsemen with Liger, and, when they tour Japan, "Wild Pegasus" Chris Benoit and "Black Tiger" Eddy Guerrero ... An solid all-around wrestler who is less spectacular than some of the younger junior heavyweights ... Loves to use Samurai bombs, reverse DDTs, and diving headbutts ... Recently invented a reverse brainbuster DDT.

**84 BOOKER T** (5'11", 250, 7, 86) One-half of Harlem Heat, along with Stevie Ray ... Booker T is the more agile of the two brothers ... He and Stevie Ray have won the WCW World tag team belts seven times ... Formerly managed by both Sister Sherri and Col. Rob Parker, he now has Jacquelyn guiding his career ... Has feuds with the Steiners, Public Enemy, and the Horsemen ... Has a mean streak.

**85 ATLANTIS** (5'6", 185, 14, NL) Feuded with The Black Warrior in early-1997 over the NWA light heavyweight title ... Spent most of this year in tag team matches, primarily six-mans ... He and Rayo de Jalisco Jr. have a long-running feud going with The Headhunters ... Competes mainly in EMLL.



**86 DR. WAGNER JR.** (5'9", 215, 11, NL) Has had multiple reigns as CMLL light heavyweight champion ... A former trios tag team champ with Gran Markus Jr. and Hijo Del Gladiador ... Has feuded with brother Silver King ... Teamed with him to win the CMLL tag team tournament in February ... Their father, Dr. Wagner, was in their corner ... Began painting opponents with white paint after defeating them ... Enhanced international reputation with a good showing at New Japan's Super Junior tournament.



Kanemoto's high-flying moves rival Liger's

**87 CANEK** (5'11", 240, 24, 183) Native of Mexico City has held the UWA title more than a dozen times ... Top heavyweight wrestler in Mexico for most of the 1980s ... Is one of the few people to beat Andre the Giant with a bodyslam (he did it in a best-of-three-falls match) ... Has also defeated Riki Choshu, Bam Bam Bigelow, and Yokozuna ... Defeated practically every top foreign wrestler to tour Mexico in the 1980s.

**88 KOJI KANEMOTO** (5'10", 201, 7, 48) Started his career as the third Tiger Mask in New Japan Pro Wrestling history ... Had a heated feud with Sabu over the IWGP junior heavyweight title a few years ago ... Often teams with Shinjiro Otani ... Advanced to the finals of this year's Top of the Super Junior tourney ... Constant rival of Jushin Liger ... Took some time off after breaking his leg last year, but hasn't lost a step ... Pet move is the moonsault, but his tiger suplex is even more effective.

**89 MARCUS BAGWELL** (6'1", 240, 7, 124) Add "Buff" Bagwell to the list of WCW wrestlers who were struggling and jumped ship to the NWO ... Since joining the NWO, Bagwell has done fairly well in WCW, but better in New Japan ... Feuded with former partner Scotty Riggs ... Spends too much time admiring himself and not enough time trying to improve in the ring ... Regular teammate of Scott Norton.

**90 SILVER KING** (5'11", 221, 12, 303) This former CMLL heavyweight champion is now competing in Promo Azteca ... At the age of 18, he became the youngest wrestler to hold the CMLL welterweight championship and the youngest to ever tour Japan ... Still makes frequent trips to Japan.

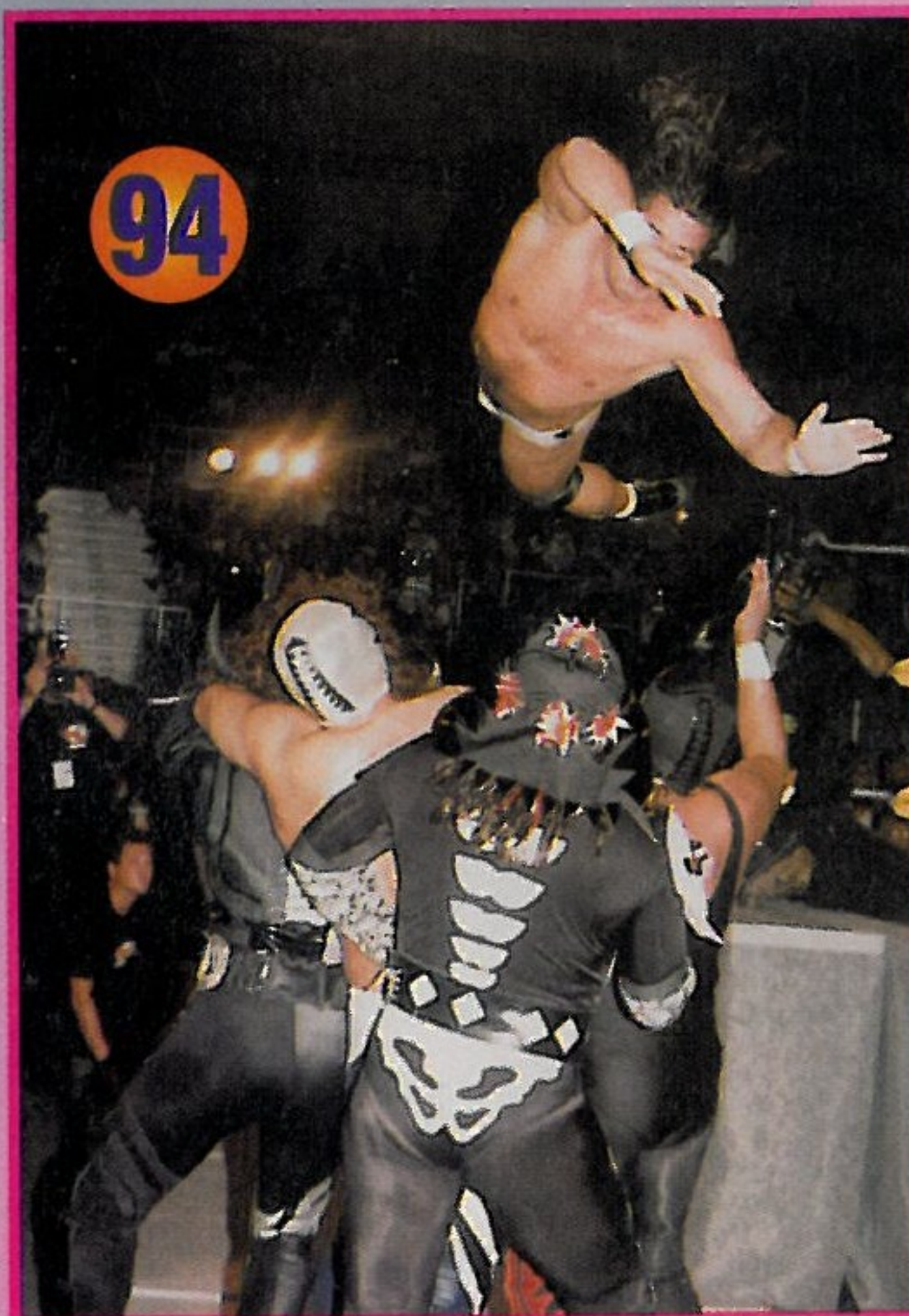
**91 SHINJIRO OTANI** (5'8", 180, 6, NL) Young graduate of the New Japan Pro Wrestling school is arguably the most underrated aerialist in the world ... Long-time friend and partner of Koji Kanemoto ... Lost a fantastic match to Jushin Liger for the J-Crown in February ... Originated the lethal swan dive DDT, but is best known for his springboard dropkick to the back of the head ... Has a brutal dragon suplex as well.

**92 KAZUO YAMAZAKI** (6'2", 227, 15, NL) Former star in both the Japanese UWF and UWFI has moved over to New Japan and had success ... Teamed with Tadashi Iizuka to win the IWGP tag team title in 1996 ... Scored a major win over Keiji Muto at the 1996 G1 Climax tournament ... Yamazaki and Iizuka had a strong run at the annual New Japan tag tourney ... Turned back by Shinya Hashimoto early this year in a challenge for the IWGP title.

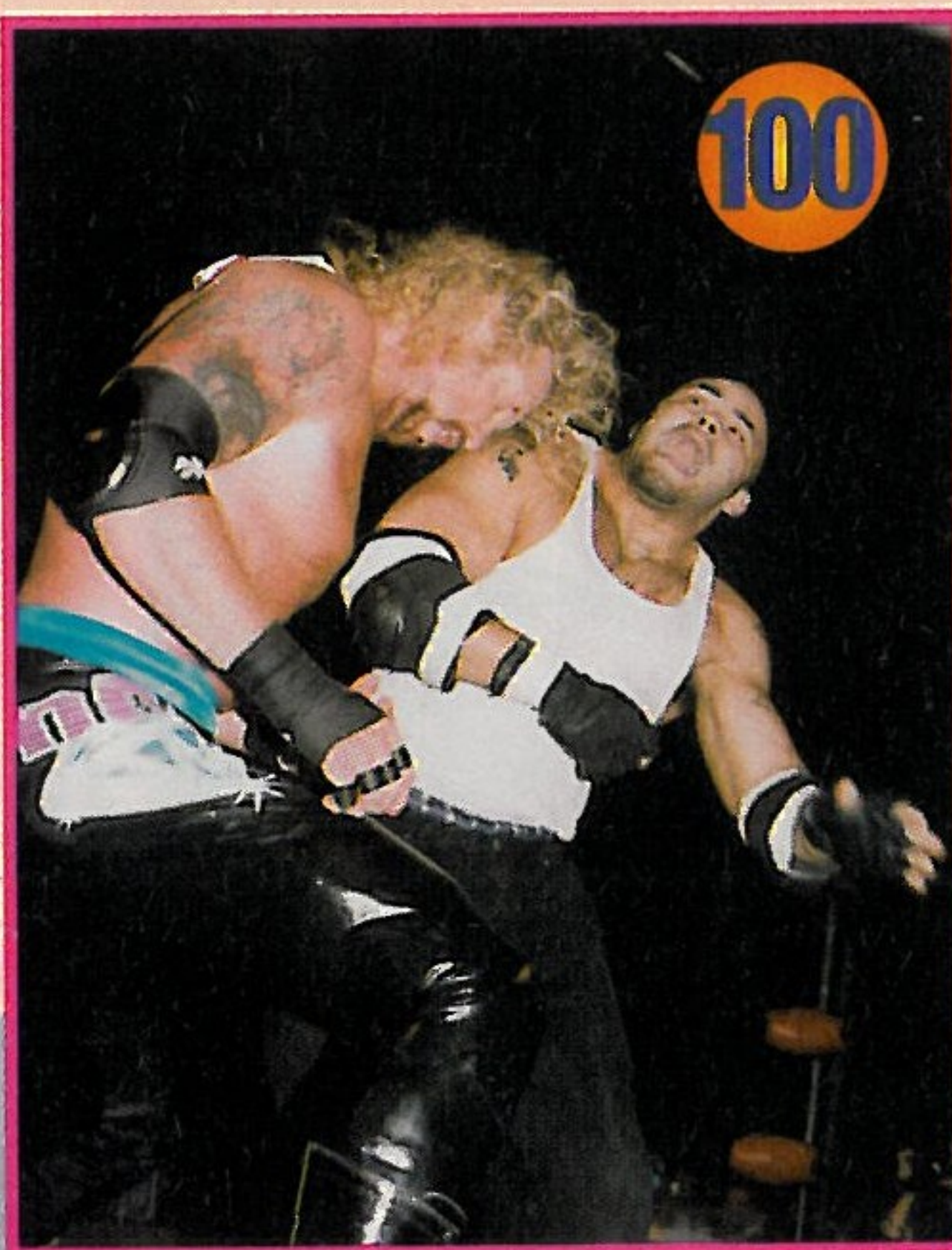
**93 STEVIE RAY** (6'1", 244, 8, 67) He and his brother, Booker T, comprise Harlem Heat ... Seven-time WCW World tag team champion ... Has feuded with the Steiners, Horsemen, and Public Enemy ... The more powerful member of Harlem Heat ... Now managed by Jacquelyn ... Has wrestled in Japan, but with only limited success.

**94 HECTOR GARZA** (5'10", 205, 5, NL) This Promo Azteca star competed in the 1997 WWF Royal Rumble, then jumped to WCW ... Son of Humberto Garza, a star in Monterey, Mexico, during the 1960s ... Innovator of the corkscrew plancha ... Began wrestling in a tag team with brother Humberto Jr., but evolved into a singles star shortly after his debut.

**95 MENG** (6', 294, 20, 140) After a long slump, Meng has been on a tear of late in WCW ... Formerly a member of Kevin Sullivan's Dungeon of Doom ... Tonga deathgrip is his new finisher ... Has beaten Chris Benoit ... He and The Barbarian made a run at the WWF World tag team title late in 1996 and early this year ... Was one-half of the WWF tag team The Islanders.



No risk is too great for Garza



Konnan's now with the NWO

**96 HIROYOSHI TENZAN** (6', 251, 7, 61) Only 26, he has already had some amazing success ... A member of Masahiro Chono's Wolves group, he has held the IWGP tag title with Chono on two occasions ... Scored the biggest win of his career by pinning Shinya Hashimoto in last year's G1 Climax tourney, then beat him again in the 1997 tourney ... Favorite finisher is the moonsault ... One of the next generation of wrestlers who will one day succeed Hashimoto, Chono, and Muto as the top stars of New Japan.

**97 ABDULLAH THE BUTCHER** (6'1", 360, 39, 92) This legendary madman always lives up to his reputation as one of the most sadistic wrestlers in history ... Was a lumbering big man before it was fashionable ... Mostly competes in Japan, but occasionally finds an opponent to chomp on in the Century Wrestling Alliance ... Renewed his feud with Carlos Colon in Puerto Rico in '97 ... May be the origin of the popular phrase, "Stick a fork in him—he's done."

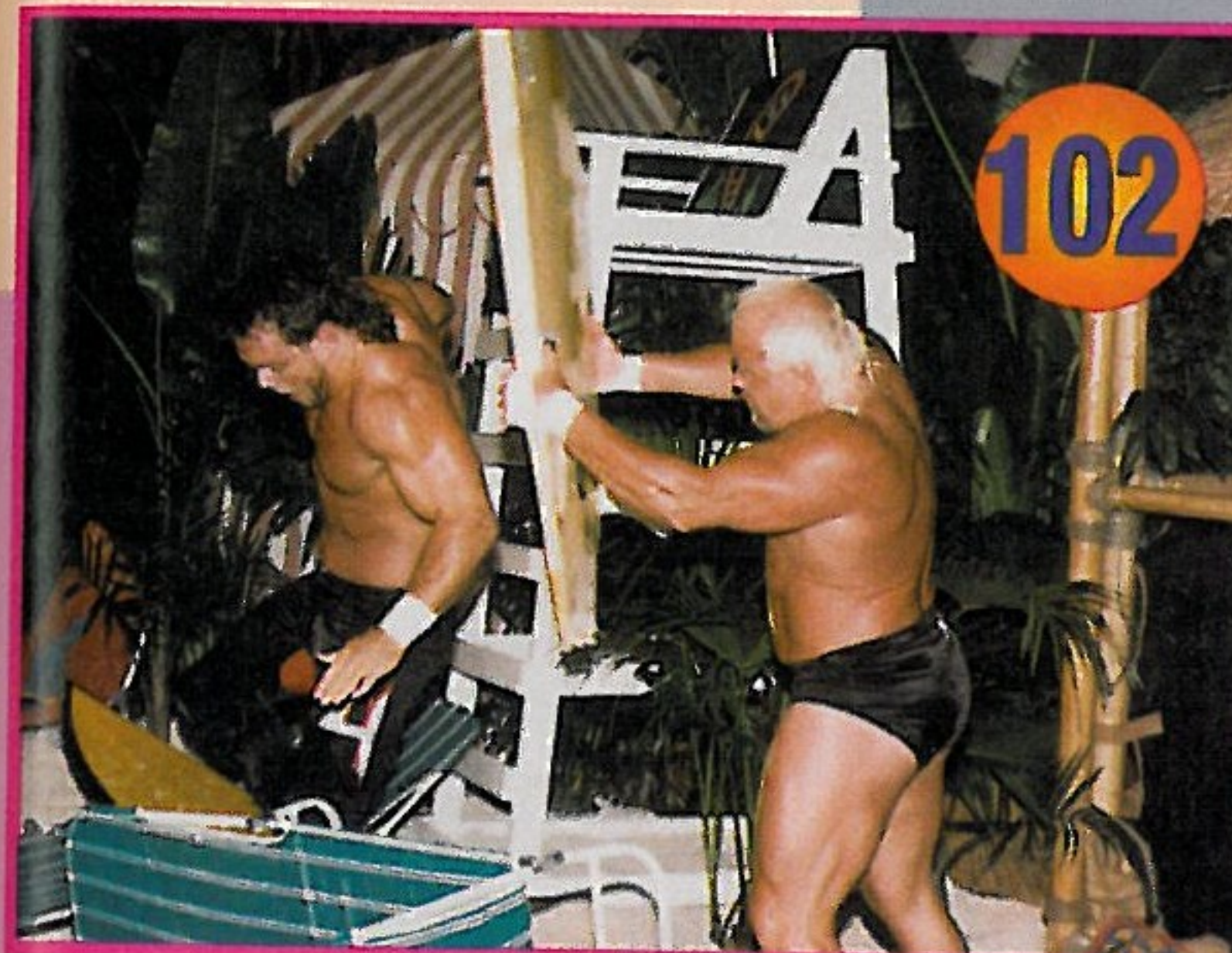
**98 LATIN LOVER** (5'11", 215, 6, NL) Emerged as a singles star this year, although his speciality has been tag team wrestling ... Current national light heavyweight champion in Mexico ... Won the 1997 Champion of Champions tournament ... Suffered an elbow injury in June that required surgery.

**99 THE PATRIOT** (6'3", 251, 10, 186) Had a tough year in Japan ... Formed a successful team with Kenta Kobashi late in 1996 ... After a strong showing in All-Japan's World Tag League, the team appeared to be on the verge of winning the All-Japan International and PWF tag team titles ... Instead, Patriot injured his collarbone and was forced out of action ... By the time he returned, Kobashi and Johnny Ace had formed a team ... Moved on to the WWF, where he's feuding with Bret Hart.

**100 KONNAN** (5'10", 230, 10, 25) A big star in Mexico who was not a major player in WCW during the past year ... Has not focused on his own career, but rather what is wanted of him by the NWO ... Broke Rey Mysterio Jr.'s leg with a leglock, then beat Rey Jr. by submission at Road Wild ... Current Promo Azteca heavyweight champion ... Throws the lowest dropkicks of any wrestler.

**101 NEW JACK** (6' 225, 5, 129) He and Mustafa Saed are known as The Gangstas ... Wrecks havoc wherever he goes ... Loud, outspoken member of the duo ... Often brings a garbage can full of foreign objects to the ring for matches ... Has held the ECW and SMW tag team title several times ... He and Mustafa can both be very scary.

**102 KEVIN SULLIVAN** (5'10", 252, 26, 237) Boston native had a series of nasty battles with Chris Benoit in the ring, in concession stands, and even in men's rooms during the last year ... Lost a retirement match to Benoit at Bash at the Beach, but Century Wrestling Alliance promoters say they will allow him to compete in their promotion ... Had Jacquelyn on his side for many of the battles with Benoit, but she turned against him during the Bash match ... Has held many regional titles over the years.



Sullivan bashes Benoit at Bash at the Beach

**103 ROCKY MAIVIA** (6'4", 272, 2, 167) A third-generation wrestler, Rocky is the son of former WWF World tag team champ Rocky Johnson and the grandson of the late Peter Maivia ... Entered the WWF last fall and started racking up victories ... Success almost came too easily for him, as he quickly became the WWF Intercontinental champion ... Lost the Intercontinental title to Owen Hart and is now a member of the Nation of Domination ... Played football at the University of Miami.

**104 HEADBANGER MOSH** (6', 243, 6, 228) He and his partner, Thrasher, entered the WWF last year and have shown quite a bit of promise ... Their style is outrageous, but influenced in some way by the Legion of Doom ... His behavior is somewhat immature ... Wrestled in many independent promotions before joining the WWF ... The Headbangers are top contenders to the WWF tag title.

**105 JUNJI HIRATA** (6'1", 253, 19, 112) Veteran powerhouse best known for wrestling as Super Strong Machine for most of the 1980s and into the early-1990s ... Took off his mask when Masahiro Chono walked out on him during the finals of the 1994 New Japan tag tournament ... A long and bitter feud with Chono ensued ... Teamed with Shinya Hashimoto to hold the IWGP tag title for nearly a year ... Injured his knee in a match against Kensuke Sasaki last August, but has been in top form in 1997 ... Favorite finisher is the machine suplex.

**106 BRIAN PILLMAN** (6', 226, 11, NL) This "ticking time bomb" is the mental basket case of The Hart Foundation ... Returned to competition after spending a year nursing injuries sustained in an automobile accident ... Former high-flyer has yet to take to the air in the WWF, but may not be able to since he seriously injured the ankle in his accident ... Teamed with Steve Austin in WCW to win the World tag team title ... While injured, showed up in ECW to cause trouble before moving to the WWF ... Dresses stylishly—just ask Goldust.

**107 J.C. ICE** (5'8", 195, 6, 98) Bill Dundee's street punk son has finally matured into a solid wrestler ... Back to teaming with Wolfie D as PG-13 after a few breakups ... Briefly in the WWF as a rapping front man for the Nation of Domination ... After being fired by Faarooq, the two entered ECW, where they continue to cause trouble ... Still competes in his home state of Tennessee, too, mostly in the USWA.

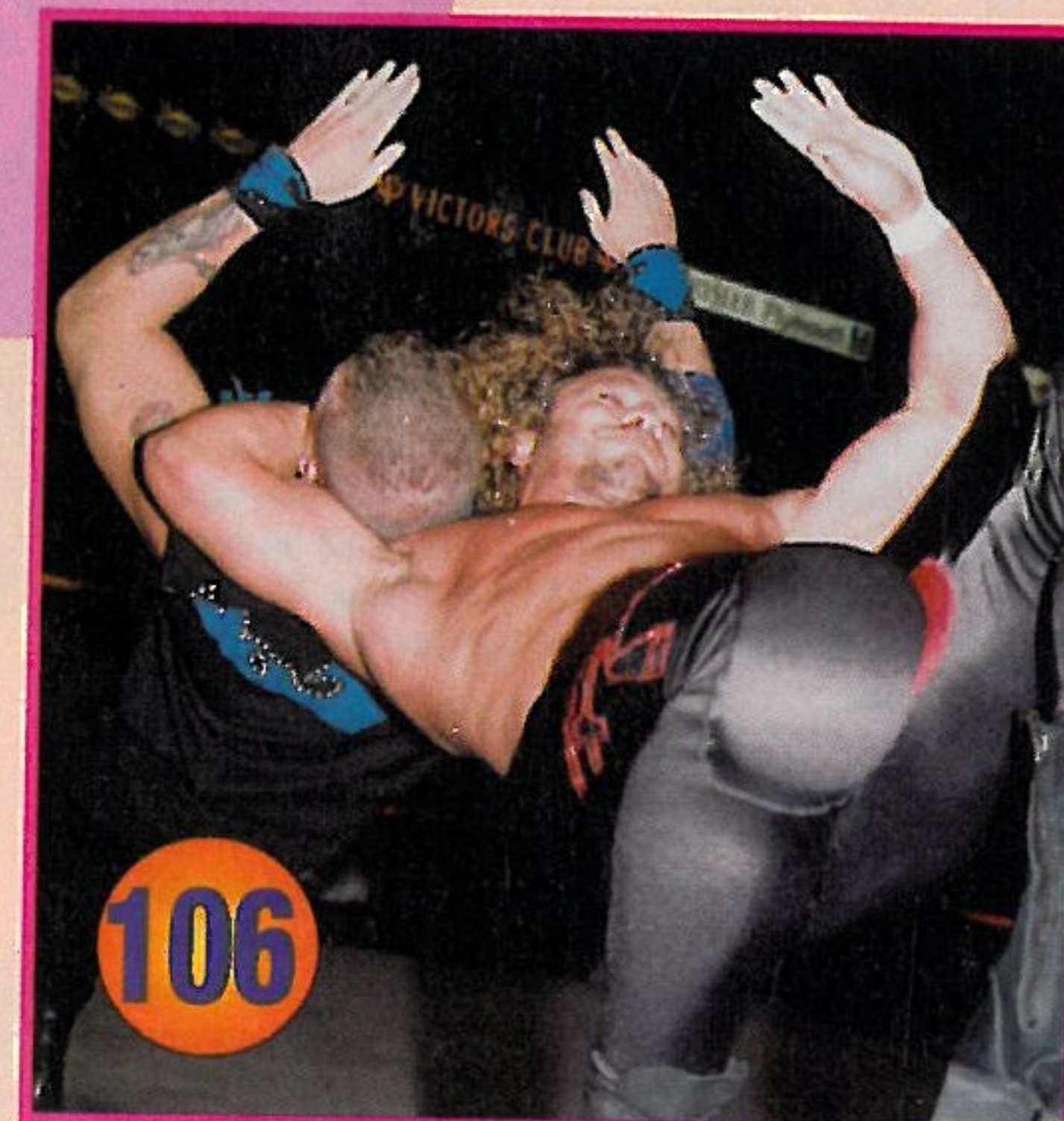
**108 MASCARA ANO DOS MIL** (5'10", 228, 16, 107) Former IWC champion wrestles primarily in Mexico ... Is the middle brother of Dinamitas trio (his brothers are Cien Caras and Universo 2000) ... Is also a singer who has recorded several albums ... Despite this blossoming career, he still wrestles frequently ... Just entering EMLL.

**109 CYBERNETICO** (6', 235, 3, NL) Former WWA heavyweight champion ... Once had a rivalry of Konnan ... Used to team with Pierroth Jr., but that partnership ended when he turned fan favorite in March during a feud with Jake Roberts, The New Razor Ramon, and The New Diesel ... In March, AAA introduced Mini Cybernetico, which is a sure sign of stardom in Mexico ... His term as a fan favorite didn't last long, though, and he was back to his nefarious ways in May.

**110 HEADBANGER THRASHER** (6'2", 245, 6, 235) After floating around the independent scene with Mosh for years, he and Thrasher finally made it to the WWF ... They are a rarity today in that

they actually execute complex double-team moves not seen much since the heyday of The Midnight Express ... The Headbangers will fight anyone in the WWF and will likely win the tag title at some point.

**111 SATOSHI KOJIMA** (6', 244, 6, NL) Another of the young gun heavyweights in New Japan ... After spending 1995 in Europe, he returned to the Orient in 1996 ... Immediately began feuding with one of the other young guns, Hiroyoshi Tenzan ... Scored his biggest singles win over Shiro Koshinaka in the 1996 G1 Climax tournament ... Teamed with Manabu Nakanishi to win the IWGP tag title this May ... Favorite



Pillman never skirts an issue



Thrasher is a tag team specialist

finishers are the spinebuster bomb and lariar ... Very charismatic. **112 HAWK** (6'3", 277, 14, 91) One-half of the Legion of Doom along with Road Warrior Animal ... Should only be a matter of time before they win another WWF tag team title ... The Legion of Doom is the only team in history to win the AWA, NWA, and WWF tag team titles ... Despite being a big, powerful wrestler, he can fly when he has to.

**113 DISCO INFERNO** (6', 238, 6, 116) Just when it seemed as if he was ready to start at least a one-match winning streak in WCW, he disco-danced his way right out of the federation ... Maybe he should change his entrance music to Gloria Gaynor's "I Will Survive" ... Is currently dancin' his way through the independent circuit, wrestling in PWX, the MEWF, and several other Mid-Atlantic federations ... A former MEWF heavyweight champ ... Rarely got to use his "Boogie Oogie" finisher in WCW.

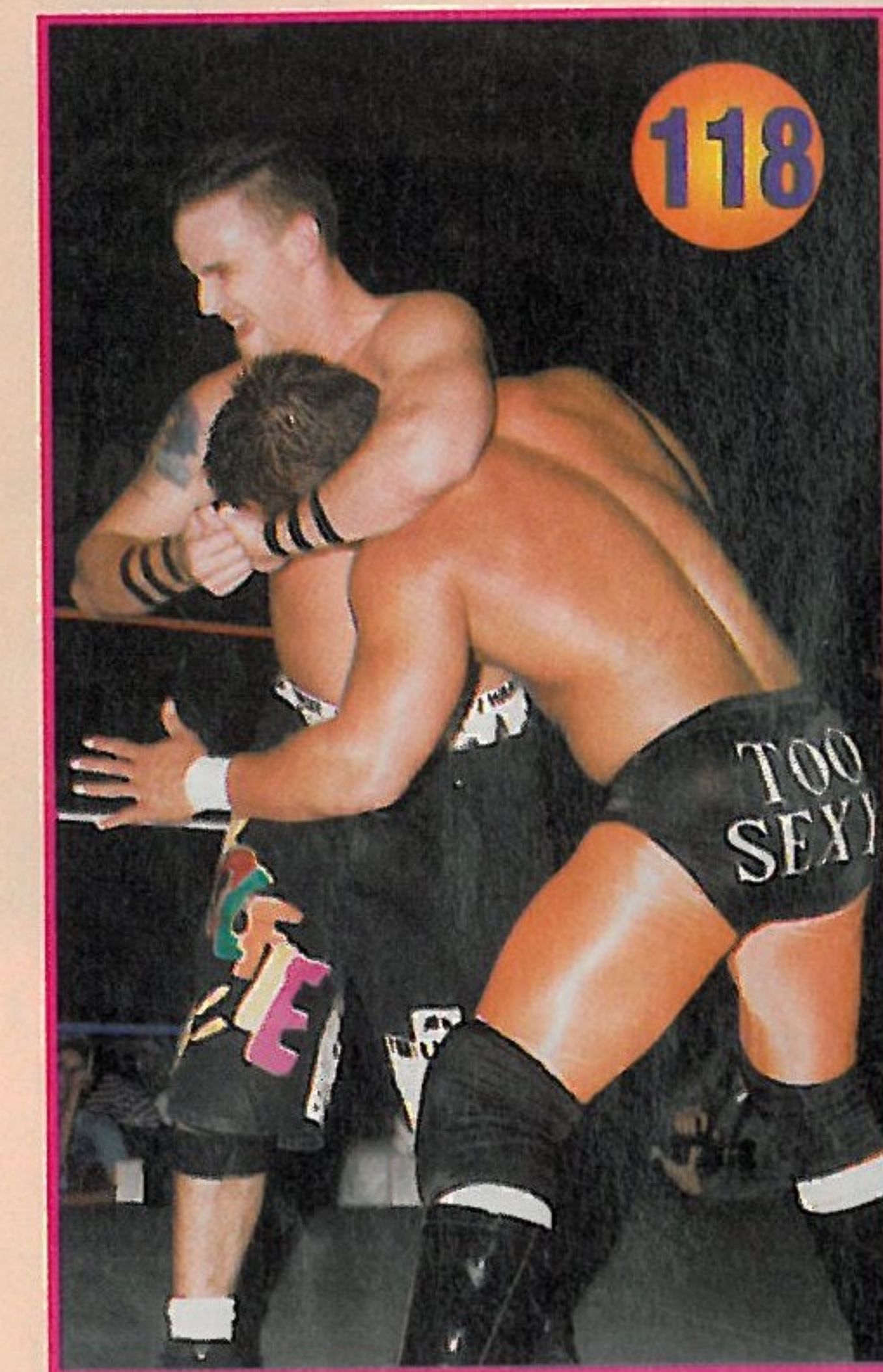
**114 TRACEY SMOTHERS** (6'1", 227, 15, 83) Former Southern mainstay is now back competing in the South again after a brief run in the WWF as Freddie Joe Floyd ... Also competes in ECW as a member of the Full-Blooded Italians, but just like his cohorts, the only things Italian he really knows are pizza and spaghetti ... A good brawler who hasn't had a lot of success in the last few years.

**115 BRIAN LEE** (6'2", 251, 8, 84) Recently entered the WWF as one-fourth of the bad boy biker posse known as the Disciples of Apocalypse ... Before undertaking this new task in WWF, he was a member of the Triple Threat in ECW ... Has held several singles and tag team titles



**116JOHNNY SMITH** (6', 235, 15, 152) This British competitor has competed primarily in All-Japan for a good part of his career ... Started wrestling when he was 17 ... Good all-around wrestler who flourishes just below main event level ... Has wrestled quite a bit in North America, mainly in Calgary and ECW.

**117RAYO DE JALISCO JR.** (6'1", 270, 20, NL) Former CMLL heavyweight champion ... He and Atlantis have a long-running feud going with The Headhunters ... Won the first annual Grand Prix tournament in 1994 ... Lost in the 1997 Grand Prix finals to Steele, then lost the heavyweight title the very next week.



Wolfe D is back in the USWA

**118WOLFIE D** (6'1", 250, 6, 103) The taller half of PG-13 has happily reunited with J.C. Ice after feuding with him last year ... He and Ice were with the Nation of Domination for a while, but they rapped more than they wrestled in the WWF ... PG-13 was forced by the NOD to wrestle The Road Warriors this year and got pummeled ... Held the USWA tag straps many times during his relatively young career.

**119PRINCE IAUKEA** (5'11", 219, 1, NL) Native of Oahu, Hawaii, debuted in WCW in April 1996 and was trounced by Kevin Sullivan, Dallas Page, and Arn Anderson, among others ... Wasn't discouraged, though, and slowly improved ... Upset Steven Regal for the TV title in February after Rey Mysterio Jr. distracted Regal ... His win was considered a fluke, but he did go on to beat Mysterio and others ... Has struggled since losing the belt.

**120DEVON STORM** (6'2", 236, 5, 169) Formed a team called The Xtremists with Ace Darling, which went to WCW for a while ... Left ECW after a brief stay ... A current PCW, NWA and ECWA mainstay ... Doesn't take as many risks as he once did and has improved his brawling skills ... Recently debuted in the WWF's light heavyweight division ... Feuding with Reckless Youth in several federations.

**121BUH BUH RAY DUDLEY** (6'2", 325, 3, 149) Another Dudley brother ... Former fan favorite has heard nothing but boos since he stopped dancing for the crowd ... Doesn't stutter the way he used to and is quite mean ... "Buh Buh cutter," a move similar to Dallas Page's "Diamond cutter" is his favorite move ... Teamed with half-brother D-Von to win two ECW tag team titles.

**122PERRY SATURN** (5'10", 234, 8, 81) One-half of The Eliminators with John Kronus ... Trained by the legendary Killer Kowalski ... Suffered a torn ACL this June and could be out for a year ... Swings a wild crutch ... Flying elbow off the top rope is just as effective as Randy Savage's ... Well-versed in the martial arts ... Three-time former ECW tag team champion has also had several memorable singles matches against Sabu.

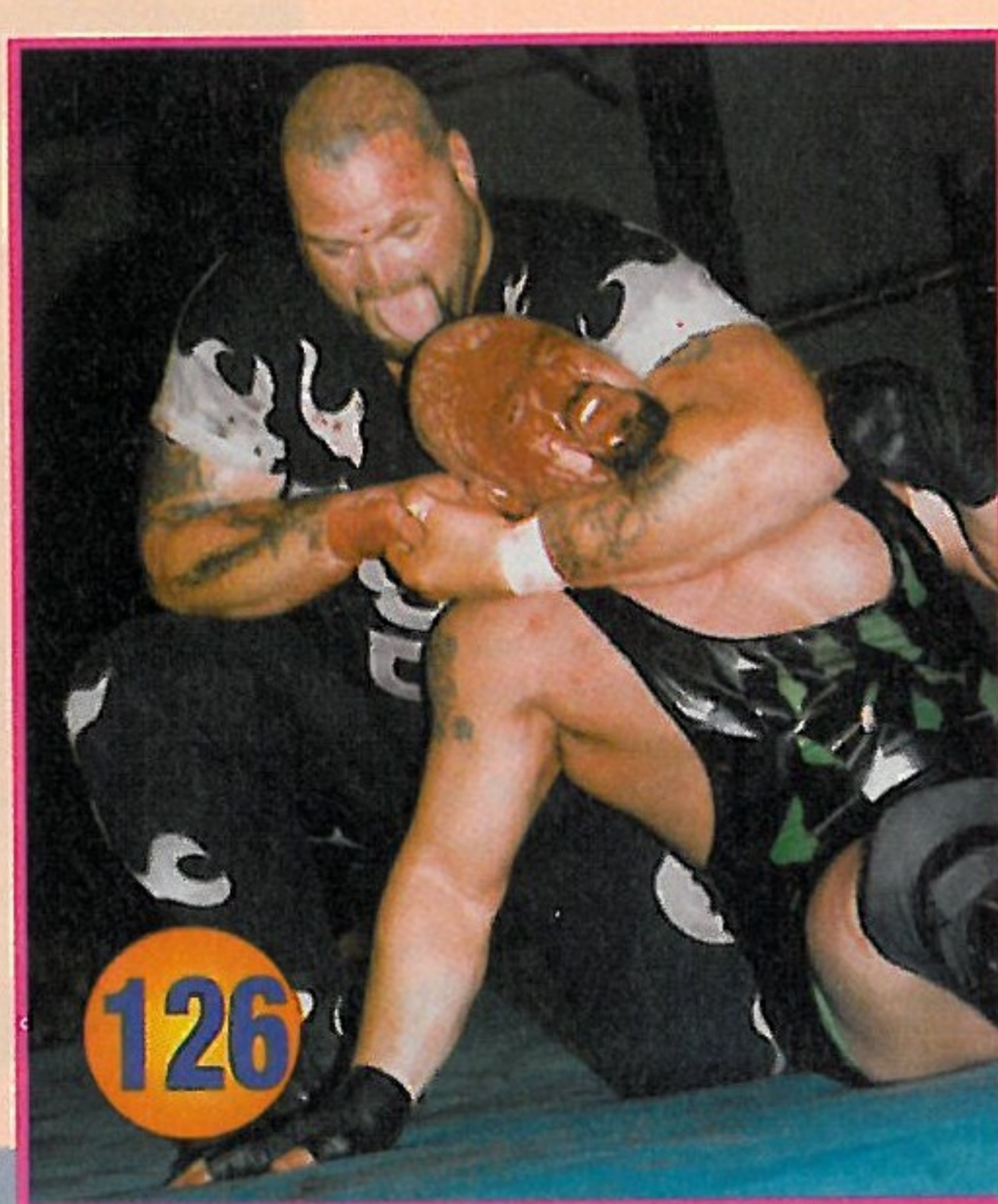
**123SALVATORE SINCERE** (6'3", 255, 12, 117) Hasn't had much success in the WWF, but has won a lot of titles on the independent scene ... Has wrestled in many independents as Johnny Gunn ... Female fans still cheer for him despite his arrogant attitude ... Former IPWA champion began feuding with Cueball Carmichael for the belt, but the feud recently spilled over into other independents.

**124DOUG GILBERT** (6'2", 241, 11, 74) One of the most popular wrestlers ever in the USWA ... Feuded with both Terry Funk and Ian Rotten while in the IWA ... Defeated Funk in a Texas chain massacre match to become the "King Of Louisville" ... Engaged in a bitter and bloody feud with Buddy Landell both in NAASW and the New Jersey-based NWA.

**125ACE DARLING** (6', 225, 5, 208) Current ECWA TV champ ... Teams with Devon Storm as The Xtremists ... Sound all-around wrestler ... Has had memorable matches against Mike Quackenbush, Bob Holly, and Flash Funk ... Loves to show off in and out of the ring ... Has held numerous titles up and down the Eastern seaboard ... Won the inaugural ECWA Super 8 tournament in February, a tournament featuring some of the top independent wrestlers in the U.S. ... Recently entered the WWF's light heavyweight division.

**126BAM BAM BIGELOW** (6'3", 350, 12, 71) "Beast From The East" joined Shane Douglas and Chris Candido as the three members of ECW's Triple Threat ... Before joining the Triple Threat, Bigelow made a surprise appearance at an ECW card in Asbury Park, New Jersey, and brutally attacked B. Mahoney ... Has feuded with both The Pit Bulls and Mahoney ... Fans still give him a hard time about his loss to Lawrence Taylor at WrestleMania XI ... The current Northeast Wrestling heavyweight champion.

**127ALEX WRIGHT** (6'3", 220, 3, 101) After another less-than-successful year in WCW, the young German has changed his attitude and began breaking rules and doing whatever it took to get ahead ... That approach is working as Wright recently captured the WCW cruiserweight belt from Chris Jericho ... Lost it back to Jericho a few weeks later, but went on to beat Ultimo Dragon for the TV belt ... Still not much of a dancer.

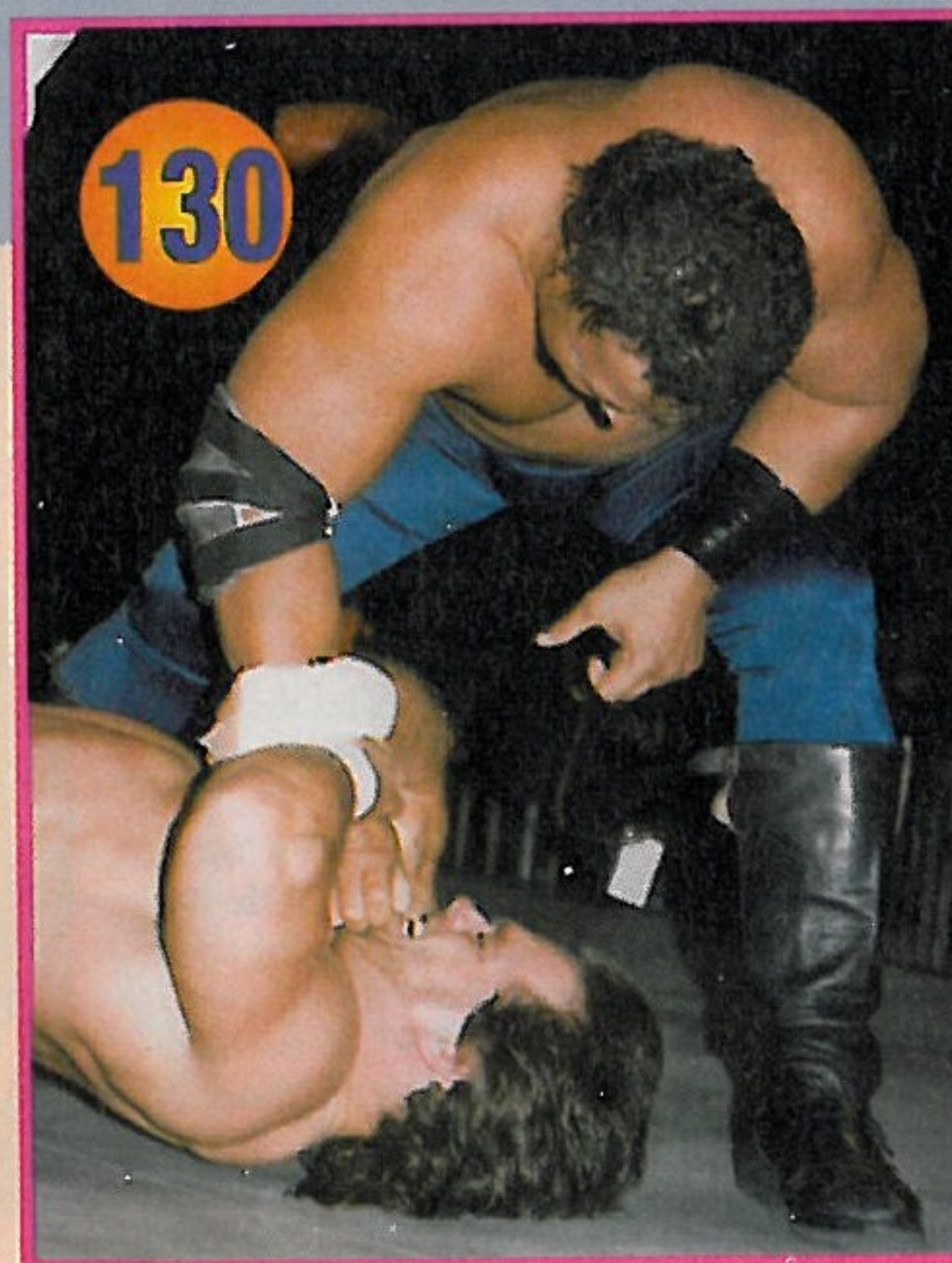


Bam Bam's now threatening ECW

**128WRATH** (6'6", 292, 6, 158) The former Adam Glacier ... Managed by James Vandenberg ... Wrestled in SMW as The Nightstalker ... Agile for his size, he has improved quite a bit since his WWF days ... Will be a force in WCW over the next year.

**129BART GUNN** (6'3", 256, 5, 133) Since the breakup of The Smokin' Gunns, Bart Gunn's career has been in a holding pattern ... Wrestled his brother and former tag team partner, Billy, several times but was not very successful ... Has found some success on the independent scene ... Is the current Pennsylvania Championship Wrestling Americas champion.

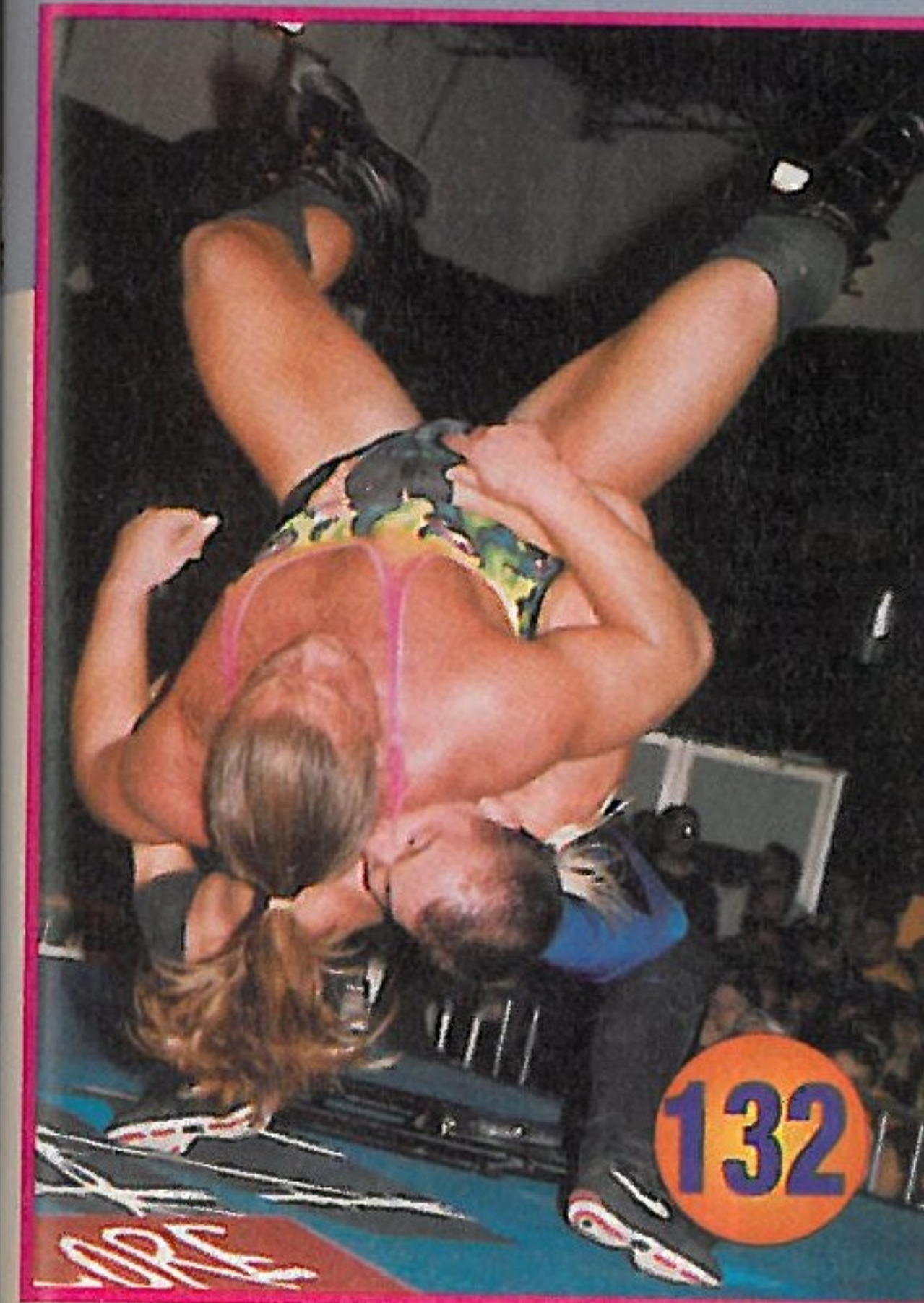
**130THE BARBARIAN** (6'5", 295, 17, 128) A member of the Dungeon of Doom, he is allowing his career to be guided by Jimmy Hart ... Though his win-loss record is not as impressive as it was in some previous years, Barbarian is still tough to beat ... Many wrestlers fear getting in the ring with him, as a match with The Barbarian means pain ... Used to wrestle in Puerto Rico and in the WWF as Headshrinker Sionne.



Barbarian inflicts pain on Benoit

**131HENRY GODWINN** (6'6", 285, 8, 106) Along with cousin Phineas, he has changed his ways and become more aggressive and dirty in the ring ... Is feuding with the Legion of Doom ... Not many people give the Godwinns much of a chance against the Legion of Doom ... Used to always carry a bucket of slop to the ring with him ... Has a bit of a problem getting used to the idea of bathing regularly.

**132LANCE STORM** (5'10", 225, 7, NL) Native of Edmonton ... Wrestles for WAR in Japan and ECW in the United States ... Has also toured Germany ... Held the WAR international junior tag team title with Yuji Yasuraoka twice ... Also teamed with Chris Jericho in Smoky Mountain Wrestling ... Lost to Rob Van Dam at ECW Barely Legal.



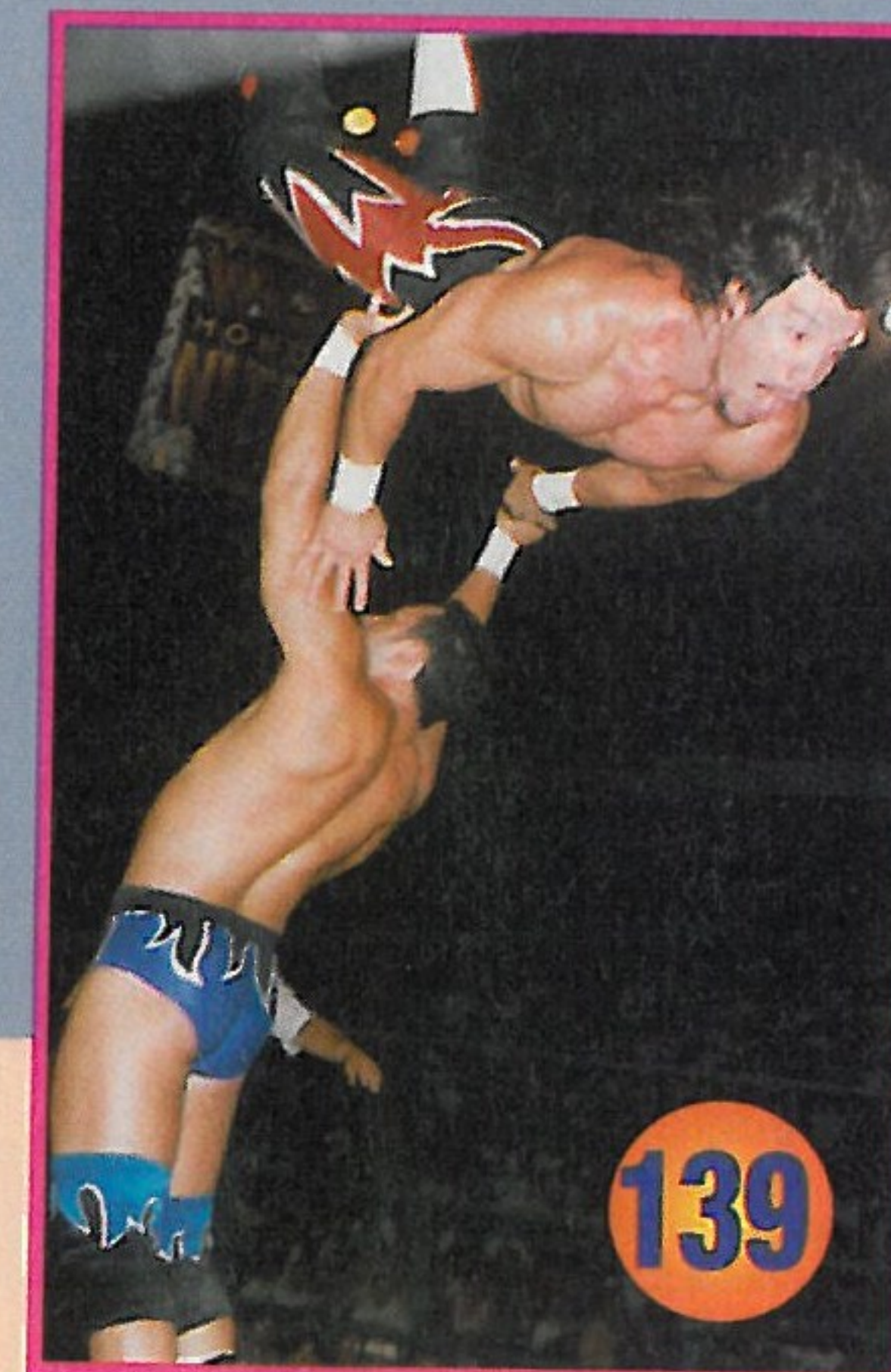
Lance Storm suplexes Rob Van Dam

**133FLASH FUNK** (5'11", 222, 11, 35) Former 2 Cold Scorpio left ECW rings for the bright lights of the WWF ... Has not had too much success since entering the WWF, as most of his wins have come against mid-to-lower-level opponents such as Rockabilly ... Is still one of the most exciting high-flying wrestlers in the world ... Perhaps he feels lost without his Funkettes.

**134BOB HOLLY** (6'1", 231, 4, 135) The highlight of this race car driver's year was scoring an upset win over WWF Intercontinental champion Owen Hart on WWF Raw Is War ... Hasn't wrestled regularly in the WWF of late, deciding to focus more on auto racing than wrestling ... Recently defeated Brian Pillman by countout on Raw ... Holly is no Deion Sanders: He needs to pick one sport.

**135ANIMAL** (6'5", 310, 15, 224) Is one-half of arguably the most successful tag team that wrestling has ever seen: the Legion of Doom (a.k.a. The Road Warriors) ... Took four years off from wrestling due to a back injury, then returned last year ... Spent some time competing in Japan ... A little stronger than Hawk ... Some are surprised that the LOD hasn't won the WWF tag title since their return.

**136PIERROTH JR.** (5'10", 240, 15, NL) Current Promo Azteca light heavyweight champion ... Had a few matches in the WWF earlier this year ... Hated by fans until he started feuding with Jake Roberts, The New Diesel, and The New Razor Ramon ... Teamed with hated rival Perro Aguayo, but later turned against him and former valet Janet ... Left AAA shortly after losing to Latin Lover at Triplemania.



Chavo Jr. tosses Uncle Eddy

**137CRUSH** (6'6", 322, 11, NL) Tough guy has returned to the WWF after having legal problems in Hawaii ... Re-entered the WWF under the guidance of manager/lawyer Clarence Mason and later joined the Nation of Domination ... Has a cool tattoo featuring shark teeth on his forehead ... Was fired from the NOD and has now aligned himself with three other bikers to form the Disciples of Apocalypse.

**138DOUG FURNAS** (5'11", 243, 11, 145) Furnas and partner Phil Lafon comprise one of the most technically sound tag teams in wrestling ... A powerful individual, Furnas set several weightlifting records in the 1980s ... Throws one of the prettiest dropkicks in wrestling ... Was involved in an automobile accident in June in which he suffered shoulder and back injuries ... Has yet to return ... Former All-Japan star.

**139CHAVO GUERRERO JR.** (5'6", 175, 4, NL) Son of Chavo Sr. has found himself in an odd feud with Uncle Eddy ... Believes in the strong wrestling tradition of his family and is upset with his uncle's bad attitude ... Once pinned Dallas Page ... Despite his lack of experience, he's smart and skilled and usually knows what to do to get out of trouble during his matches ... May have to go through Eddy to become a star.

**140AL SNOW** (6'1", 233, 15, 90) Suffered through a miserable losing streak in the WWF before finally returning to ECW ... After the breakup of The New Rockers, Snow (known as Leif Cassidy in the WWF) was unable to effectively adapt to singles competi-

tion ... Helped to train Dan Severn for Ultimate Fighting Championships ... Lost to Rob Van Dam at ECW's Hardcore Heaven pay-per-view in August.

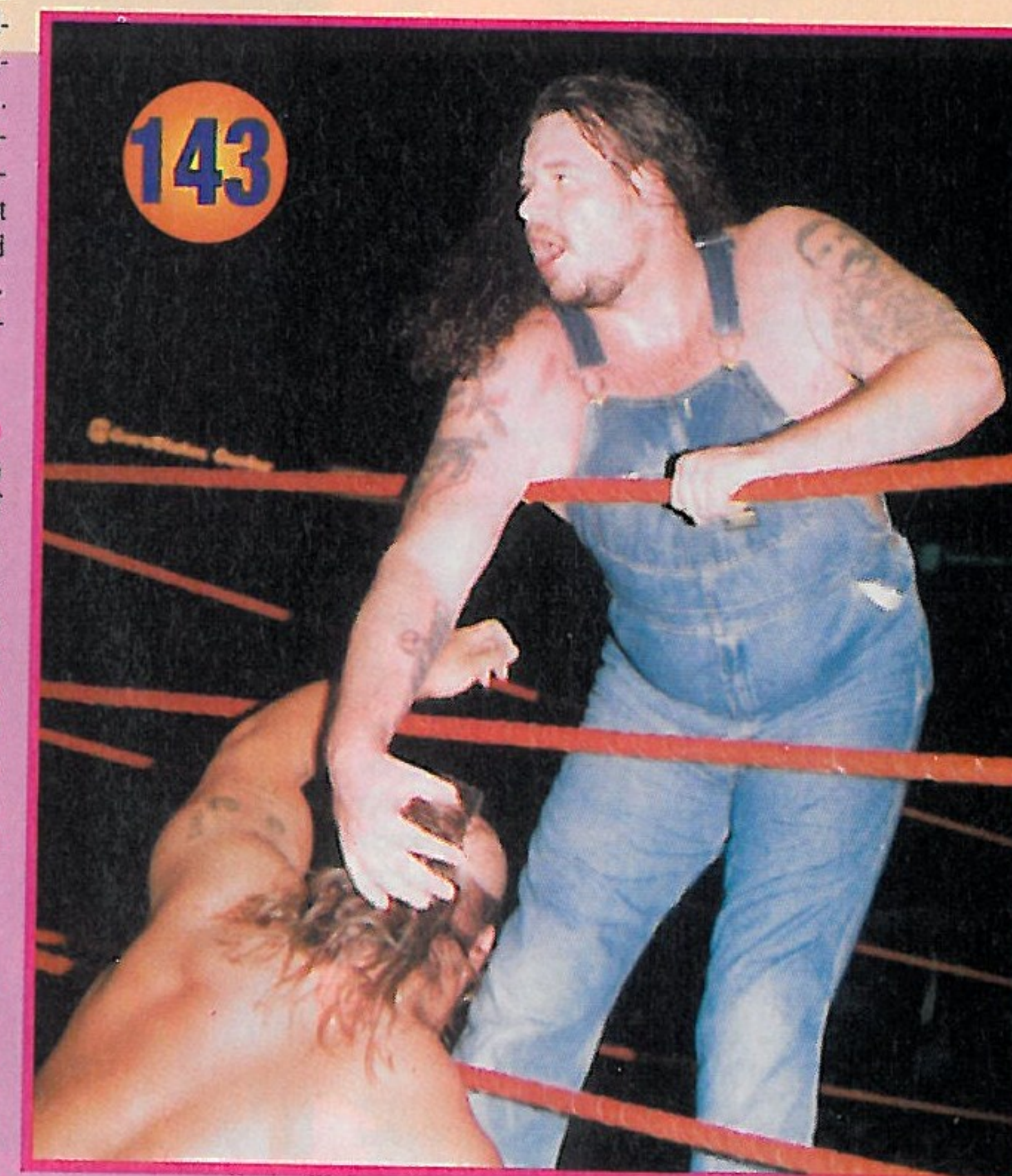
**141LIZMARK JR.** (6'2", 235, 6, NL) Son of the legendary Lizmark, who was a pioneer of the high-risk Lucha style ... Just 21, he has incredible potential ... Specializes in different styles of moonsaults ... Father made planchas famous in Mexico in the 1970s.

**142PHIL LAFON** (5'11", 235, 15, 151) A very skilled scientific wrestler, Lafon, like his partner, Doug Furnas, hasn't wrestled since a June car accident ... The Furnas/Lafon tag team enjoyed considerable success in All-Japan over the years ... Hasn't had a chance to show what he can do as a singles wrestler in the WWF ... Says WWF fans don't appreciate his skills ... Formerly known as Dan Kroffat.

**143PHINEAS GODWINN** (6'1", 246, 7, 138) Reluctantly went along with cousin Henry when he told him they needed to start disregarding the rulebook ... Current feud with the Legion of Doom doesn't look promising for Phineas and his cousin ... A former WWF tag team champ ... Though big and strong, the Godwinns need to spend more time polishing their skills and less time worrying about life on the hog farm.

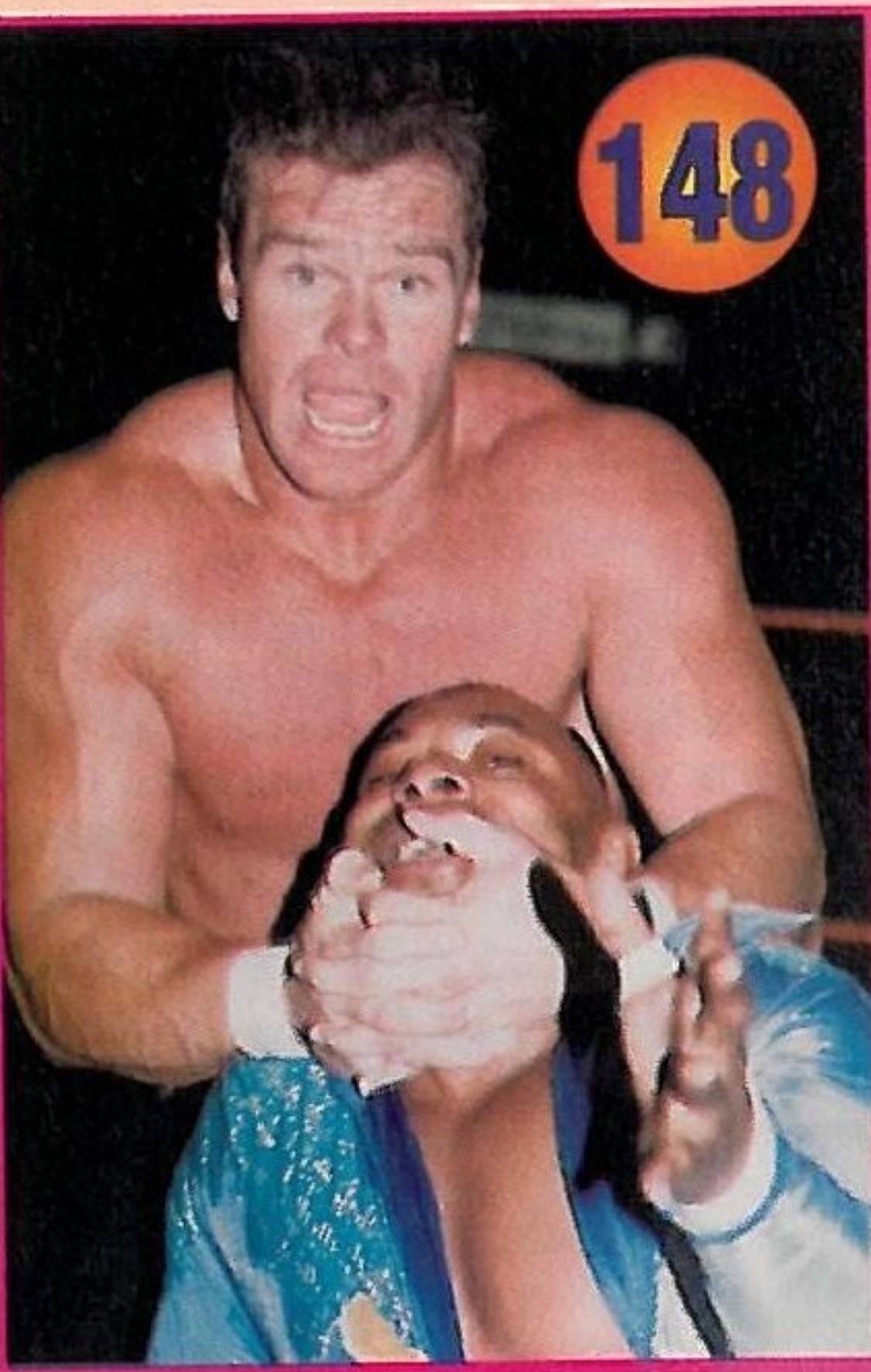
**144D-LO BROWN** (6'1", 288, 4, 211) Independent star making good in the WWF as a member of the Nation of Domination ... Was the only member of the first version of the NOD whom Faarooq didn't fire ... Before entering the WWF, spent some time competing in Puerto Rico ... Wrestled in the now-defunct SMW, where he was TV champ, and in several indies in the Midwest and Mid-Atlantic region ... Has a great moonsault in his repertoire.

**145VILLANO IV** (5'8", 205, 21, NL) Son of former NWA light heavyweight champion Ray Mendoza is one of four wrestling brothers ... Has held many titles in Mexico, including the Mexican tag team title and the trios title with his brothers Villano III and V ... Also held the WWA tag team and trios titles ... Currently wrestling in WCW and Promo Azteca.



Phineas can handle just about any Animal





Rockabilly hasn't been on much of a roll

**146 GLACIER** (6'2", 245, 8, NL) This martial arts master has gained more attention than any WCW newcomer in years ... His ring entrance is spectacular ... His martial arts skills are even more impressive ... Is involved in a feud with Wrath, who is managed by Charles Vandenburg ... Is picking up wrestling moves daily and will be a force in WCW for quite some time.

**147 BARRY WINDHAM** (6'5", 273, 17, NL) Has come a long way back, but has slipped considerably since his prime in the '80s ... Looking more and more like his dad, Blackjack Mulligan ... WWF tag team with Justin Bradshaw is called The New Blackjacks, in honor of Mulligan, who teamed with Blackjack Lanza as The Blackjacks ... Bulldog finisher is still effective.

**148 ROCKABILLY** (6'3", 256, 5, 194) Since the breakup of the Smokin' Gunns tag team, Rockabilly has fared better than his brother ... Is now under the guidance of the Honky Tonk Man ... Has fought with his brother Bart, generally getting the upper hand ... Needs to take some guitar lessons ... Rumor has it he still longs for former manager Sunny.

**149 RICK MORTON** (5'11", 228, 19, 126) This former Rock 'n' Roller is now competing in several independent federations in the South ... Occasionally appears in ECW, with his last appearance ending with he and tag team partner Tommy Rich brawling ... Still teams on occasion with Robert Gibson, with whom he won the NWA World tag team titles four times ... Is still able to dizzy opponents with his aerial skills, most notably his dropkick.

**150 SCOTTY RIGGS** (6', 220, 5, 134) After Marcus "Buff" Bagwell turned against him, the American Male has been trying to make it as a solo wrestler ... Has battled Bagwell, though not successfully ... Probably best suited for tag team wrestling ... Still makes the women go ga-ga.

**151 BRIAN KNOBS** (6'1", 295, 10, 114) One-half of one of the weirdest tag teams in the sport, The Nasty Boys, along with Jerry Sags ... It appeared the Nasty Boys were going to be part of the NWO, but they were rejected by group ... They are no longer welcome in WCW either, but will most likely compete there ... Have feuded with Public Enemy, two wrestlers who are very similar in style.

**152 RECKLESS YOUTH** (5'8", 183, 2, 363) Is the current NWA North American champion and former holder of the Pennsylvania Championship Wrestling junior heavyweight title ... Recently returned to competition in PCW ... Reckless' constant rulebreaking has drawn the ire of special referee Johnny Graham, sparking a feud ... Fearless flyer ... Also feuding with Rocco Rock ... Has gained most of his success in the Mid-West independents.

**153 JESSE JAMES ARMSTRONG** (6'4", 240, 6, 105) Formerly Jeff Jarrett's Roadie, Jesse is showing the world he can sing and wrestle in the WWF ... The youngest and largest of four the Armstrong brothers, his oldest brother, Brad, believes Jesse will be the most successful wrestler in the family ... Has been feuding with the Honky Tonk Man's protegee, Rockabilly ... Former Marine.

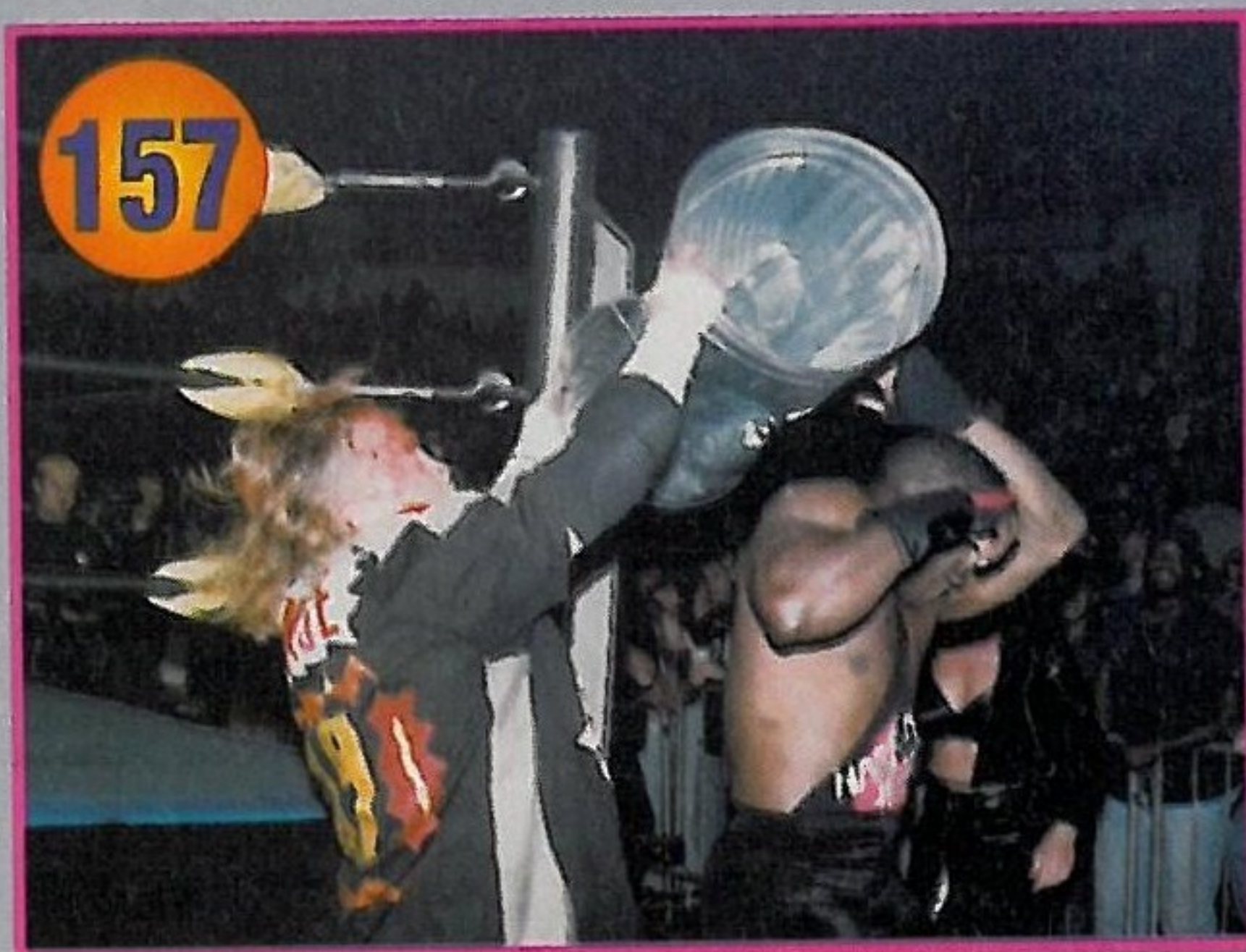
**154 MARTY JANETTY** (5'11", 230, 13, 122) Since the breakup of the New Rockers, Jannetty has been pretty much invisible in the WWF ... With Shawn Michaels, formed The Midnight Rockers in the AWA ... Held the AWA and WWF tag team titles with Michaels ... Name will always be connected with that of his former partner ... Formed The New Rockers with Leif Cassidy (Al Snow) but after several months, the team struggled and eventually split.



Reckless Youth thinks he's superior

**155 HUGH MORRIS** (5'10", 230, 7, 156) A rough tough member of the Dungeon of Doom ... Followed orders of Kevin Sullivan and Jimmy Hart, which hindered his development ... One of the best moonsaults in the sport ... Very intimidating.

**156 KAMA MUSTAFA** (6'6", 340, 8, 191) Recently returned to the WWF as a member of the Nation of Domination ... Well-skilled in martial arts and uses these skills every chance he gets ... Had a violent feud with the Undertaker before disappearing last year from the WWF.



Grunge is still hardcore

**157 JOHNNY GRUNGE** (6'3", 263, 10, 123) Is part of the tag team Public Enemy along with partner Rocco Rock ... Has spent much of the year feuding with Harlem Heat ... Not a particularly well-versed wrestler, Grunge relies on brawling and foreign objects for his success ... Public Enemy have become very popular in WCW after a very rough start ... When he sets up a table, you know it will be broken.

**158 JERRY SAGS** (6'3", 290, 11, 121) One-half of the Nasty Boys along with Brian Knobbs ... Years ago was involved in a major fight with Ultimate Fighting champion Ken Shamrock ... Has spent much of the year out with a nagging injury that won't seem to heal ... The Nasty Boys' "Pit Stop" maneuver remains one of the most disgusting moves in wrestling.

**159 JIM NEIDHART** (6'1", 275, 18, 171) After spending most of his time on the independent circuit, Neidhart resurfaced as a member of The Hart Foundation with Bret Hart, Owen Hart, The British Bulldog, and Brian Pillman ... Overpowers opponents, but has little technical finesse ... Briefly wrestled under a mask in the WWF as Who? ... The reformation has given his career a much-needed boost.

**160 P.G. WALKER** (6', 225, 5, 155) After a bright beginning in the WWF, was not been able to put together a solid succession of wins ... Moved on to the USWA, where he has joined Wolfie D and J.C. Ice as a member of PG-13 ... Destined to be a mid-card wrestler unless he can develop a solid ring strategy ... The potential is there.

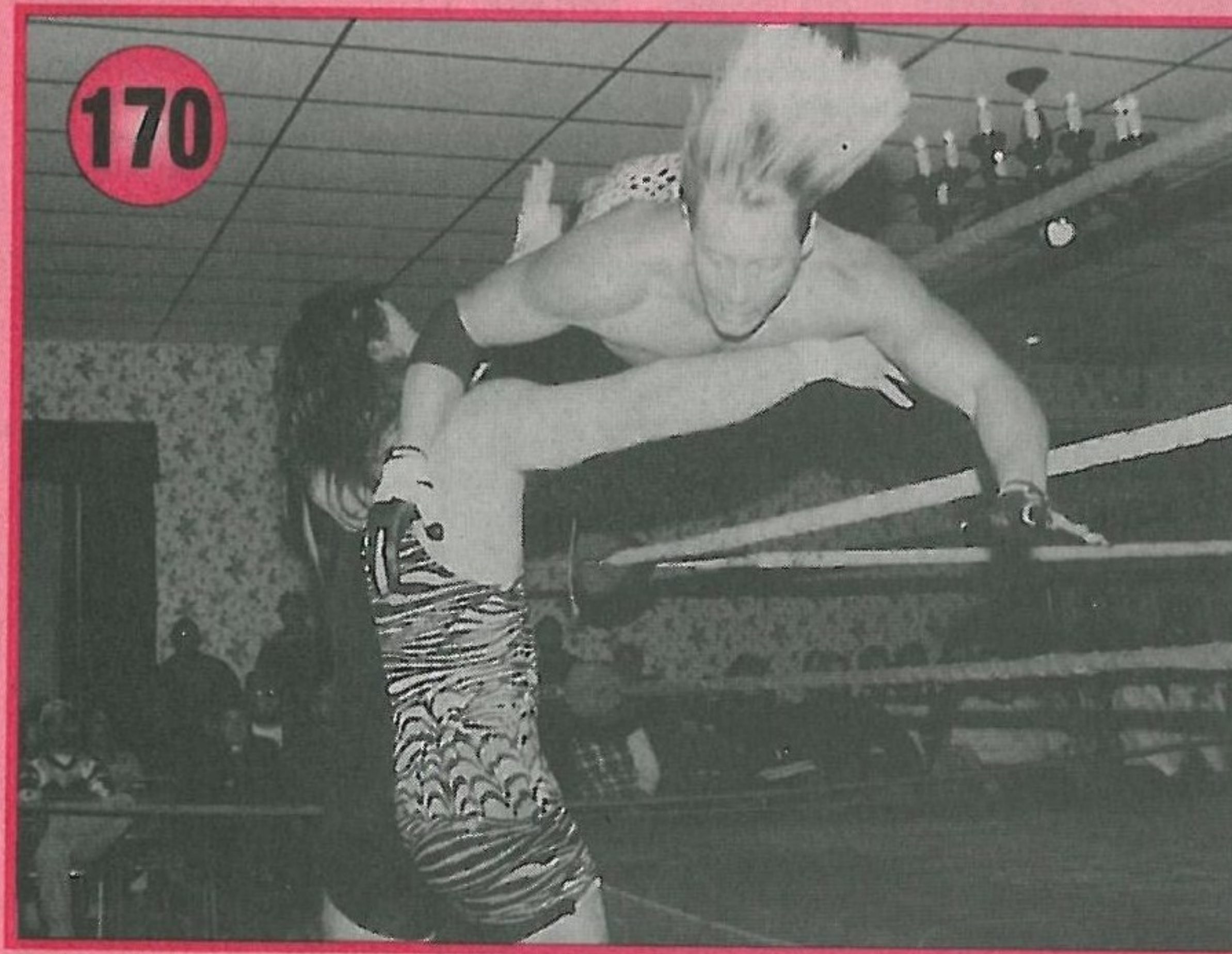
**161 SCOTT TAYLOR** (6', 203, 8, NL) Self-taught wrestler was one of the first wrestlers to compete in the WWF's light heavyweight division ... Learned to wrestle by training with his friends in his mother's garage ... Has been with the WWF since 1990, but hadn't gotten beyond preliminary wrestler until recently ... Former New England Wrestling heavyweight and tag team champion ... Also competed in the USWA ... Toughest match was against Owen Hart.

**162 PIT BULL I** (6'3", 243, 7, 80) Many fans know him by his real name, Gary Wolfe ... Returned to action after having had his neck broken in a match against Shane Douglas last summer ... His doctors advised him not to return due to the threat of permanent injury, but he ignored them ... Had a series of matches against Douglas, but could never win Douglas' ECW TV title ... Former ECW tag team champion with Pit Bull II.

**163 HEAVY METAL** (5'7", 180, 9, 201) Member of the famous Casas family ... Formed the 1997 version of The Love Machines with Hector Garza and Latin Lover ... Wrestled in a six-man match at the WWF's Royal Rumble pay-per-view this year ... Had a beer bottle broken over his head during a match with Picudo ... Lost 1997 Triplemania streetfight to Sangre Chicana in a bloodbath when his father disqualified him for smashing a guitar over Chicana's head.

**164 YUJI NAGATA** (6'1", 220, 5, NL) The fourth of the next generation of Japanese heavyweights ... Hasn't had the success yet of his peers ... Strong kicks, a nice collection of suplexes, good submission skills and fine technique on the mat give him a solid wrestling base ... Runner-up in the 1995 and 1996 Young Lions tournaments ... Currently on an extended stay in the United States, with stardom predicted for him when he returns to Japan.

**165 LOUIE SPICOLLI** (5'10", 248, 8, 220) Former WWF mid-carder (Rad Radford) is now in ECW ... Fans there changed their opinion of Louie after he viciously attacked Beulah McGillicutty with a "Death Valley Driver" ... This began a feud between Louie and Tommy Dreamer ... Has dressed like Dreamer and imitated his mannerisms, actions that have only



Cheetah Master dives onto Ace Darling

served to make Tommy more angry ... Lost several "I Quit" matches to Dreamer ... Has a lot of wrestling knowledge, but he often chooses to brawl rather than wrestle.

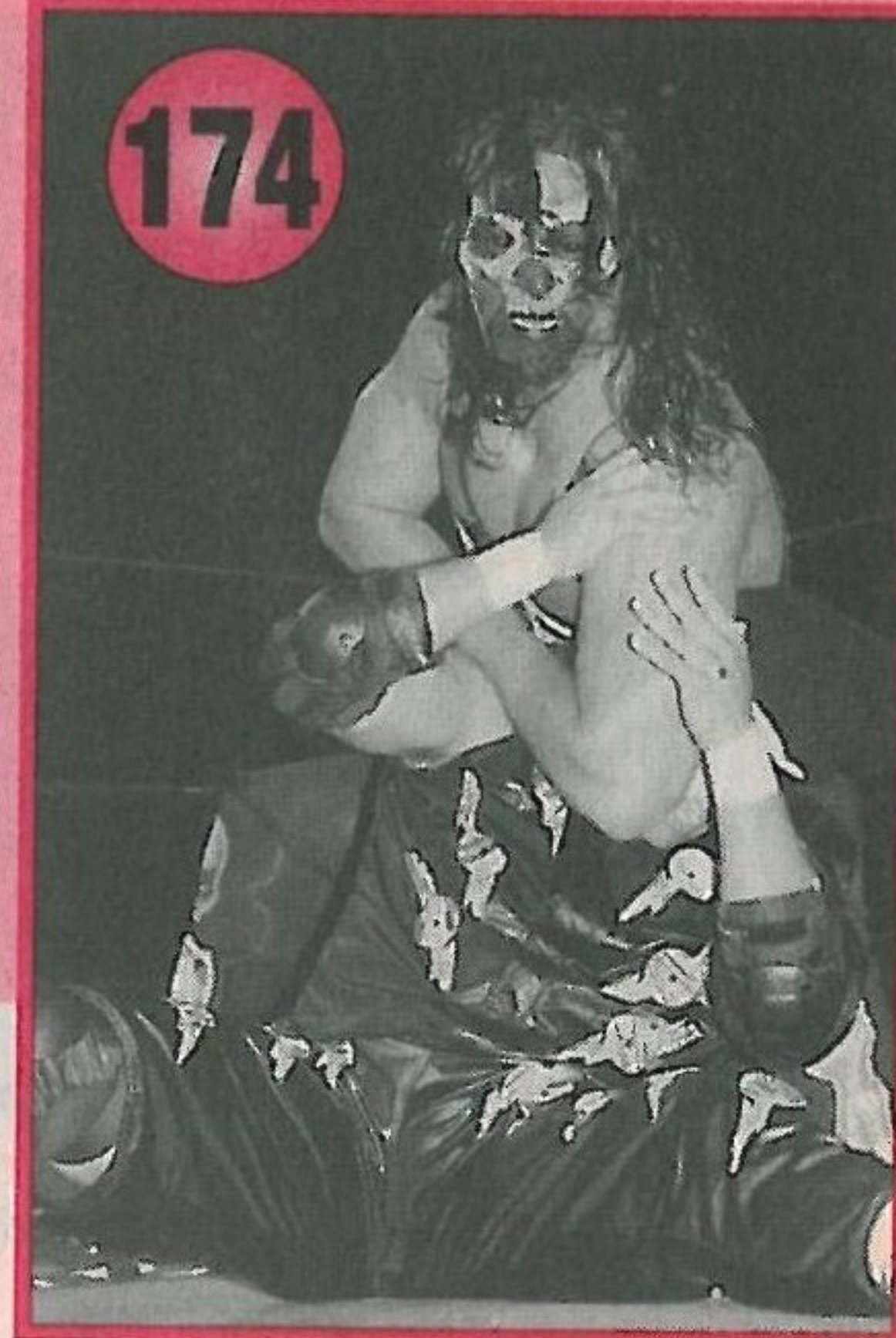
**166 ROCCO ROCK** (6'2", 251, 19, 119) One-half of Public Enemy along with Johnny Grunge ... After a bumpy start in WCW, Public Enemy has started to win matches more consistently ... Loves to break tables ... Has had some success against the Horseman and Harlem Heat ... Didn't get his big break in wrestling until he and Grunge formed Public Enemy in ECW and won four tag team titles there.

**167 DANDY** (5'6", 195, 16, NL) Former NWA light heavyweight champion ... Lost a hair vs. hair triangle match involving Hijo Del Santo and Negro Casas late last year ... Turned against former ally Negro Casas a few weeks later ... Challenged for CMLL middleweight title in April, but lost to Satanico ... Long-time veteran of EMLL left in May to compete in Promo Azteca.

**168 AXEL ROTTEN** (6'2", 278, 9, 132) Regularly competes in ECW and Mid-Atlantic independents ... After feuding with both Corporal Punishment and New Jack, he has now formed successful tag teams with both men ... Recently reconciled with brother Ian and teamed with him in Louisville ... Has also competed in Japan.

**169 MIGUEL PEREZ JR.** (6'1", 232, 20, 174) Latin star is now getting a chance to shine in the WWF as a member of Savio Vega's group, Los Boriquas ... Currently caught up in an extensive feud with the Nation of Domination and Disciples of Apocalypse ... Has competed in Japan, Mexico, and Puerto Rico.

**170 CHEETAH MASTER** (6', 223, 7, 222) Current Pennsylvania Championship Wrestling heavyweight champ and East Coast Wrestling Association tag champ with Lance Diamond ... Charismatic high-flyer who whips the crowd into a frenzy during his matches ... Uses the top-rope splash as his finisher, sometimes going as high as 15 feet ... Had



Mortis is one scary dude

memorable matches against Honky Tonk Man and 30-minute "Ironman" bouts against Diamond ... Participated in the ECWA Super 8 tourney ... The most popular wrestler in the ECWA and PCW.

**171 OCTAGON** (5'7", 190, 8, 175) Former AAA star is now making headway in both Promo Azteca and WCW ... Another high-flying Mexican star who can stun an opponent with his martial arts skills and startle him with spectacular top-rope maneuvers.

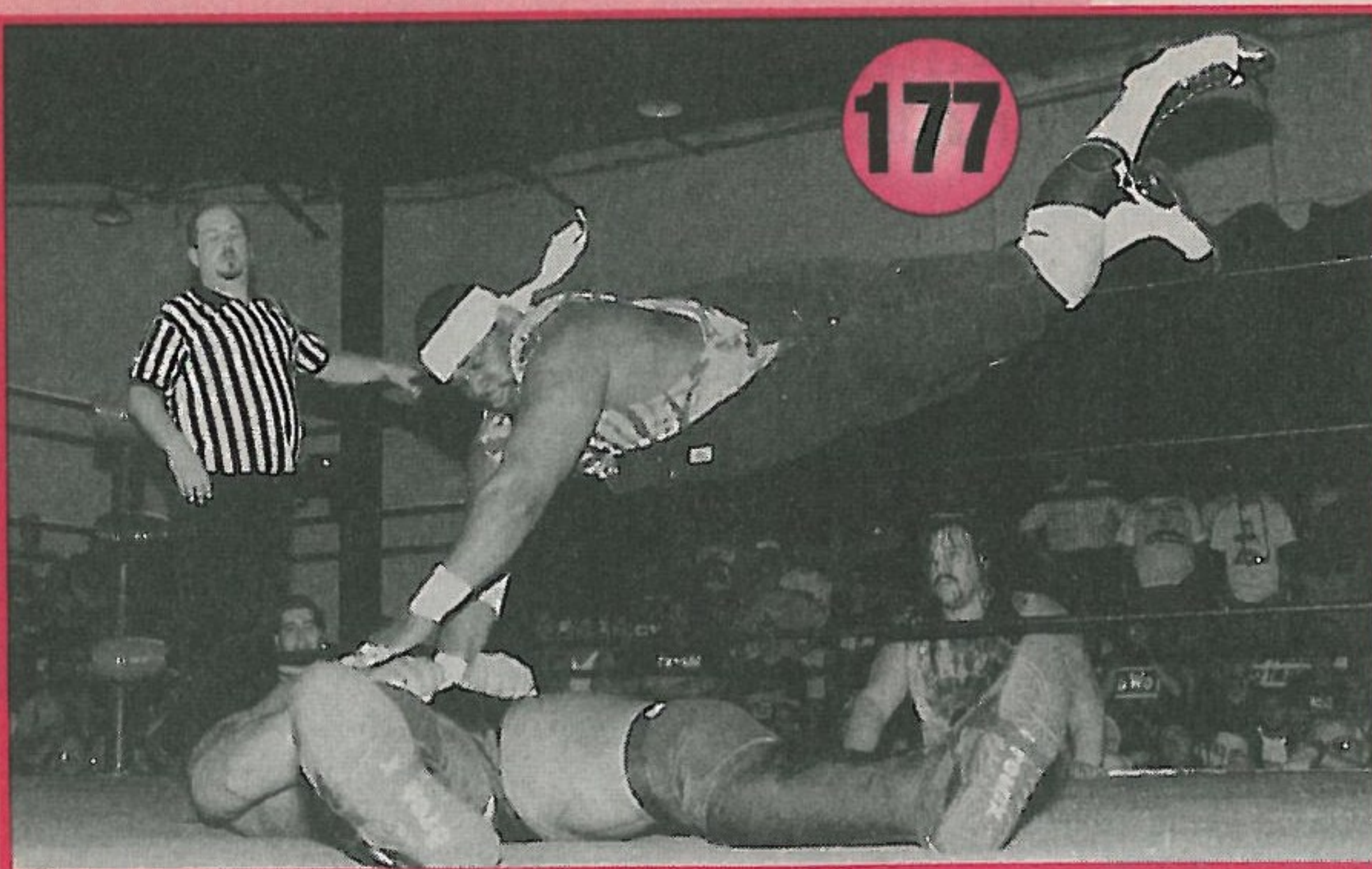
**172 DICK TOGO** (5'9", 229, 6, NL) Top rule-breaker in Michinoku Pro and leader of the Kaientai DX team ... Spent a year training in Mexico before returning to Japan under the name Sato ... Might be the most hated man in Japan not tied to the NWO ... Tremendously agile for his size ... Made his U.S. debut in ECW earlier this year ... Constantly feuding with The Great Sasuke and his Seikigun team ... Likes to finish opponents with his bonecrushing top-rope senton.

**173 JUSTIN BRADSHAW** (6'7", 309, 5, 327) Recently formed The New Blackjacks tag team with Barry Windham, the son of Blackjack Mulligan ... Came to the WWF under the guidance of Zebekiah (Dutch Mantel) ... Recently helped Mantel beat Jerry Lawler for the USWA title ... Lost his first pay-per-view match to Savio Vega last September ... The New Blackjacks show potential, but have yet to make much of an impact in the WWF.

**174 MORTIS** (6'3", 270, 1, NL) Little is known about this eerie competitor's past ... Managed by James Vandenberg in WCW ... Teams regularly with Wrath ... He and Wrath have been locked in a feud with Glacier and Ernest Miller ... Very agile, but prefers to try to maul his opponents rather than outwrestle them.

**175 THE NEW DIESEL** (6'7", 345, 3, 157) Was brought in to the WWF by Jim Ross, but was never well-received by the fans ... Teamed with The New Razor Ramon in both the WWF and USWA before getting into a feud with him ... Was hoping to be a champion like the original Diesel ... His plans didn't work out, and he lost a loser-leaves-the-USWA match to The New Razor ... Most observers still feel he has a great deal of potential and will be a star in a few years.





D-Von's a deadly Dudley in ECW

**176 LANCE DIAMOND** (6'1", 230, 7, 227) Current ECWA tag champ with arch-rival Cheetah Master ... Also a former ECWA heavyweight, PCW Americas, and NWA North American champion ... Has recently heard the unfamiliar sounds of cheers, even though his aggressive style has not changed ... Had memorable matches with Bart Gunn and Cheetah Master, as well as a highly publicized feud with Goldust in PCW and the ECWA ... Controversial and outspoken, "The Superstar" dazzles with suplexes and mat wrestling.

**177 D-VON DUDLEY** (6'1", 260, 3, 295) He and half-brother Buh Buh Ray have formed a devastating team in ECW ... The two of them twice won the ECW tag team belts this year ... Has settled his differences with his other Dudley brothers ... Has changed Buh Buh Ray from a fun-loving, dancing fool into a stern wrestling machine.

**178 JAKE ROBERTS** (6'5", 246, 21, 161) Former WWF star is now competing in AAA ... During last tenure in WWF, feuded with Jerry "The King" Lawler, who made light of the problems Jake used to have with alcohol ... Interfered in the Lawler-Tommy Dreamer match at ECW Hardcore Heaven, attacking both men ... His DDT is still a lethal finisher ... A devout born-again Christian.

**179 DAVID TAYLOR** (6'3", 285, 4, 127) Steven Regal's former squire returned to England for a while, but is now back in WCW ... No longer in Regal's shadow ... Tough, arrogant brawler with little finesse ... Ready to make a big impact on WCW this year.

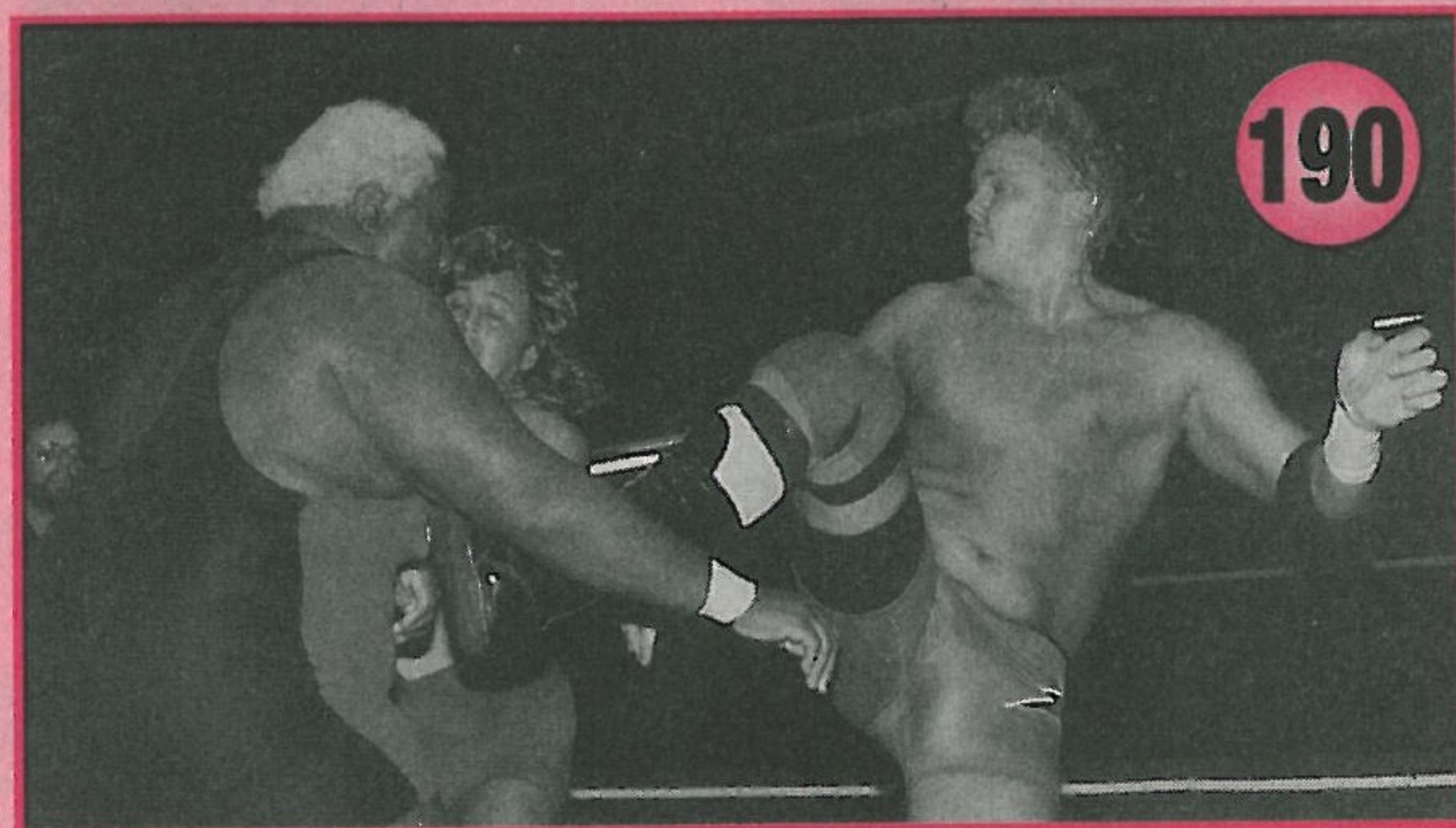
**180 SUPER DELFIN** (5'9", 187, 8, NL) Long-time rival of The Great Sasuke now teams with Sasuke's Seikigun team against the Kaientai DX ... Tag team partner of Gran Naniwa ... One of Michinoku Pro's top stars, he loves to wear outlandish outfits ... Fans call him "Senor Perfecto" ... Lightning quickness has helped him beat much larger athletes ... Likes to punish opponents with his swinging DDT before finishing them with his "Delfin clutch."

**181 IAN ROTTEN** (6', 302, 7, 178) Recently beat Bull Pain in a barbed-wire cage match in Louisville, Kentucky, to win the vacant IWA heavyweight title ... Has feuded with Doug Gilbert on and off during the past six months ... Reconciled with brother Axl, and the two are even considering teaming on a regular basis again.

**182 GLEN OSBOURNE** (6'1", 258, 8, 231) "Madman From The Badlands" is the currently in the middle of his third ECWA heavyweight title reign ... Also a former PCW tag champ ... Some opponents are intimidated by his muscular physique ... A fine mat wrestler ... Has feuded with Viper over the ECWA heavyweight title ... Has also feuded with Lance Diamond and Armageddon.

**183 SCOTT PUTSKI** (6', 235, 11, 179) The son of Ivan Putski is hoping to match the success his dad had in the WWF ... Teamed with Ivan to beat Jerry Lawler and Brian Christopher this summer ... Currently competing in the WWF's lightweight division ... Also wrestles for several East Coast independents ... When not in the WWF, he almost always has Missy Hyatt at his side.

**184 JACQUES ROUGEAU** (6'2", 253, 20, NL) This Amazing French-Canadian made international headlines this year by pinning WCW World champ Hulk Hogan in a non-title match in front of his hometown crowd in Montreal ... Claims that he could have done it again, but Hogan never granted him a title match ... He and Amazing French-Canadian partner Carl Oulette are former WWF World tag team champions ... Once won the Intercontinental belt as The Mountie.



Flanagan gets a leg up on the USWA competition

**185 MUSTAFA SAED** (6'1", 244, 6, 144) The other half of The Gangstas ... Was periodically missing from ECW competition this year, but partner New Jack didn't seem to mind ... Former ECW and SMW tag team champion ... Tough brawler who likes to inflict punishment with a bevy of foreign objects.

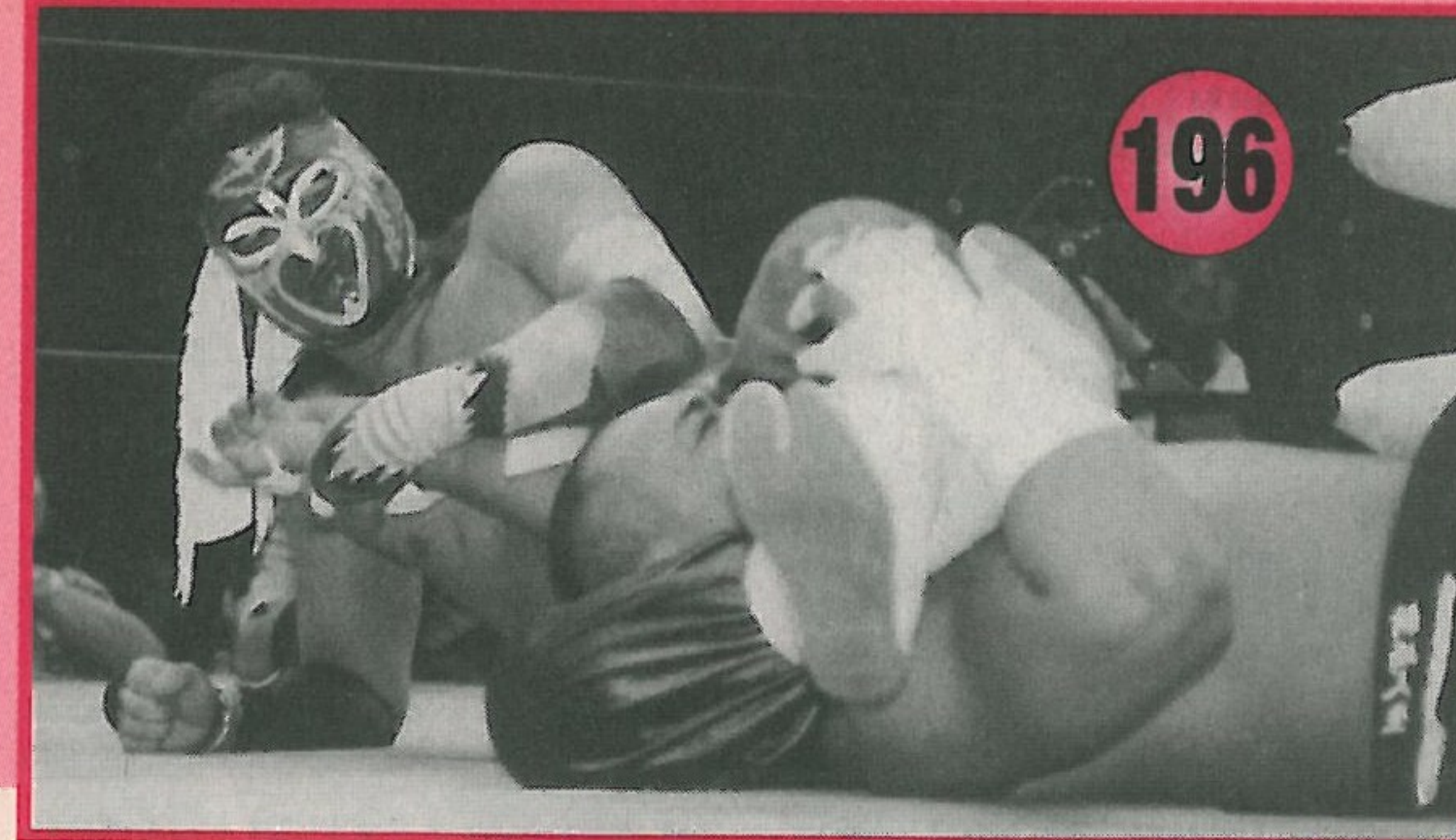
**186 TADASHI IZUKA** (6', 231, 11, NL) Formed a successful team with Kazuo Yamazaki; the two of them won the IWGP tag title in 1986 ... Teamed with Tatsumi Fujinami against the Steiners at Wrestle War in May 1992; the Steiners used him as a human punching bag ... Fine technical wrestler whose favorite move is the blizzard suplex ... Caught in the middle between New Japan's top heavyweights and the up-and-coming youngsters, so he might not have a chance to become a star there.

**187 DUTCH MANTEL** (5'11", 224, 24, 348) Crafty veteran recently won the USWA heavyweight title ... Sticking to the USWA for now, but has spent much time in Puerto Rico and had a brief stint in the WWF ... Has also competed in the NWA as one-half of the Kansas Jayhawks ... Actually claims to be wrestling's ultimate icon.

**188 BUBBA ROGERS** (6'6", 310, 12, 93) The former UWF champion joined the NWO last year, only to have his NWO contract voided by James J. Dillon ... Has not enjoyed much success in the ring since he entered WCW in 1993 ... He was far more successful as Big Bossman in the WWF ... Deceptively fast for his size ... His win-loss record might improve if he started carrying (and using) a nightstick again.

**189 WING KANEMURA** (5'10", 233, 7, 118) The top man in FMW, Kanemura currently holds both the independent title there and the brass knuckles title ... U.S. fans might remember the Smoky Mountain match in which Kevin Sullivan ripped open his arm with a spike ... Has wrestled in a variety of death and explosives matches in Japan ... Has good wrestling skills, but in FMW, skill takes a back seat to craziness ... Would like to wrestle the semi-retired Atsushi Onita later in 1997 to leave no doubt that he is FMW's finest ... Favorite finisher right now is Onita's own thunder fire power bomb.

**190 FLASH FLANAGAN** (6'2", 235, 5, 456) He and Steven Dunn defeated PG-13 for the USWA tag team title in August ... Has had some problems with his former tag team partner Paul Diamond ... Briefly competed in the now-defunct SMW.



High-flying Hayabusa's rarely on the mat

**191 BLUE PANTHER** (5'5", 205, 19, 204) Arguably the best mat wrestler in Mexico today ... Held the Mexican middleweight title ... Best described as Mexico's version of Dean Malenko ... Competes for AAA and for several Southwestern independents.

**192 FUERZA GUERRERA** (5'5", 175, 19, NL) The father of Juventud Guerrera ... Started wrestling when he was 17 ... One of the best rulebreakers in Mexico ... Former bodybuilder regularly competes in AAA ... Former NWA welterweight champion ... Trained Octagon.

**193 CARL OULETTE** (5'11", 255, 5, NL) With Jacques Rougeau, he is one-half of The Amazing French-Canadians ... Used to wrestle in the WWF as Quebecer Pierre and Jean-Pierre Lafitte ... Has one glass eye ... Is more effective in tag team competition than as a singles wrestler ... Incredibly agile for a man his size.

**194 MASATO TANAKA** (6', 213, 4, NL) At 24, he's seen as the future of FMW ... Small but skilled wrestler, though skill has little to do with FMW wrestling ... Loves to use Mitsuharu Misawa's rolling elbow as a finisher, along with the thunder fire power bomb made famous by his mentor, Atsushi Onita ... Has been unable to beat rival Wing Kanemura ... Critics wish he'd leave the nightmarish style of FMW behind and join one of the traditional groups.

**195 KING KONG BUNDY** (6'4", 446, 16, 165) Former WWF monster is now terrorizing the Northeastern Independents ... Had a memorable feud with Hulk Hogan in the mid-1980s ... Always asks for a five-count when he pins an opponent ... He and Primo Camera III actually broke a ring during one of their 1997 matches ... Has feuded in ECWA with Boogie Woogie Brown and with Bam Bam Bigelow in other Northeastern independents.

**196 HAYABUSA** (5'10", 175, 6, NL) Became the top fan favorite in FMW in the absence of Atsushi Onita ... Perhaps the most injury-prone wrestler ever ... Has broken almost half the bones in his body ... Had a long and bloody feud with the Funk Masters of Wrestling ... Embittered rival of Hisakatsu Oya ... Is one of Japan's best pure high-flyers ... Daredevil style compares to that of both Sabu and Rey Misterio Jr. ... Favorite move is the mindboggling stardust press: a corkscrew 450-degree moonsault splash.

**197 ANTONIO INOKI** (6'3", 224, 37, 52) An all-time great ... Hasn't wrestled anything close to a full-time schedule since 1989, choosing to wrestle only a handful of times a year around his other non-wrestling activities ... Always looks strong when he wrestles, but is probably glad he doesn't have to put up with the rigors of a 150-plus-match schedule every year ... Almost impossible to accurately rate him against wrestler working a full schedule.

**198 DORY FUNK JR.** (6'2", 250, 33, 209) Former NWA World champion got a chance to regain the belt that means so much to him when he faced NWA heavyweight champion Dan Severn in a series of matches this year ... Held Severn to a time-limit draw in one and wrestled him to a double-countout in another ... Frequently competes in Japan, but only occasionally wrestles in the U.S. these days.

**199 JINSEI SHINZAKI** (5'11", 213, 4, 198) Used to wrestle in the U.S. as Hakushi ... Has been lost in the shuffle since his return to Japan ... He has no real role in his former home of Michinoku Pro, as he's a part of neither Kaientai DX or Sasuke's Seikigun ... Has had some success in other promotions, losing to top stars like Keiji Muto, while beating lower-ranked wrestlers such as Hayabusa and Michiyoshi Ohara ... Critics believe he's slowed since returning from the U.S. and hasn't shown much desire ... Favorite finisher is the prayer power bomb.

**200 TITO SANTANA** (6'1", 245, 22, 188) Former WWF Intercontinental and World tag team champ has joined the WWF's Spanish broadcasting team ... When he's not doing commentary, he is competing all over the East Coast for numerous independents ... Still uses his flying forearm smash as a finisher.

**201 MIKEY WHIPWRECK** (5'7", 181, 5, 146) Former ECW heavyweight, TV, and tag team champ (with Cactus Jack) is back after a serious knee

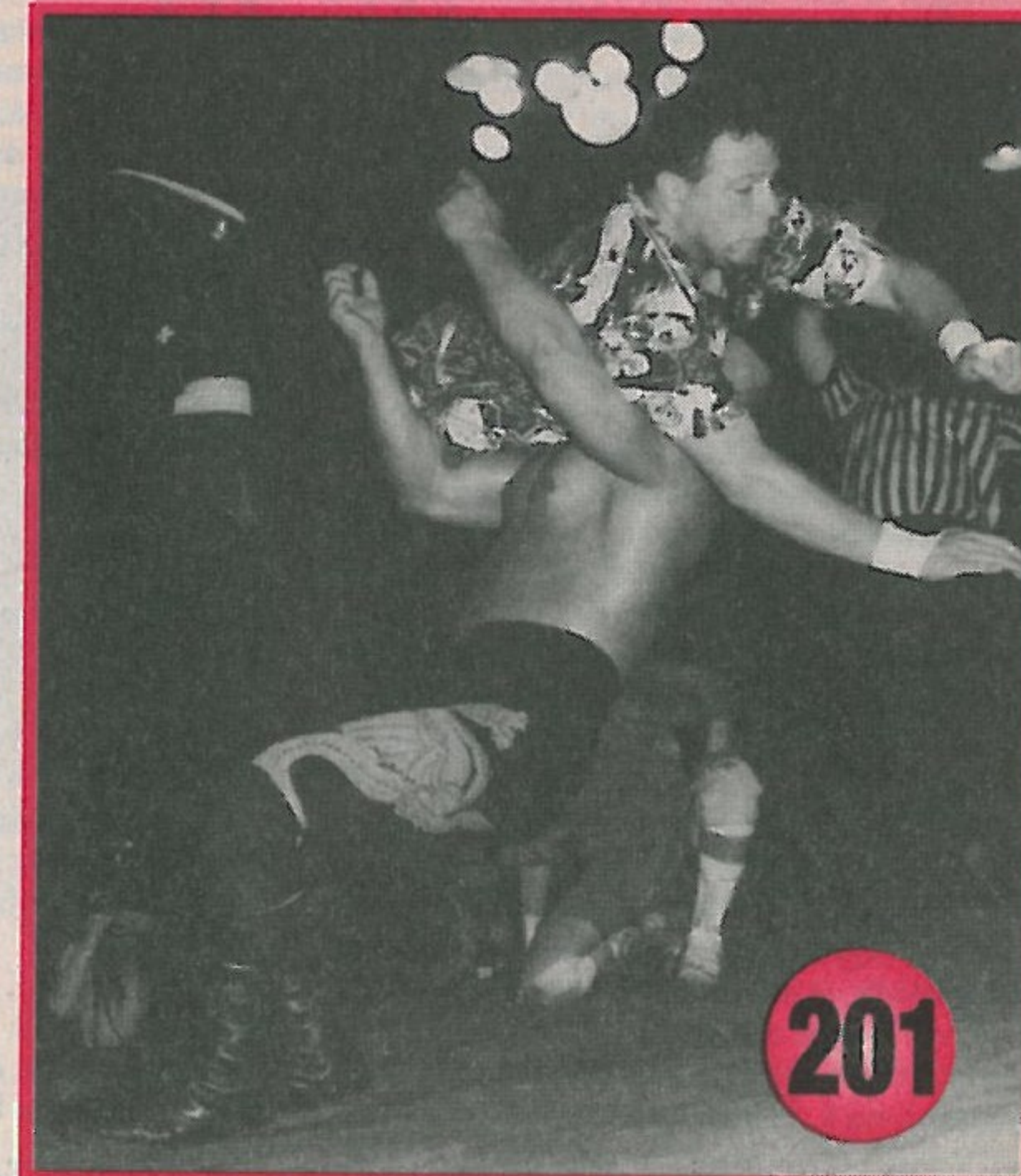
injury that kept him sidelined for several months ... Has yet to regain momentum that he had before injury ... Still a favorite of the fans ... Loves to use his "Frankensteiner" as a finisher ... Has formed a team with Spike Dudley.

**202 BILLY KIDMAN** (5'10", 206, 3, NL) Youngster has impressed some people in WCW with his shooting star press finisher ... Trained by Afa in his hometown of Allentown, Pennsylvania ... Used to wrestle as Kid Flash ... Also competes frequently for several independents along the East Coast, including the ECWA ... Participated in the ECWA's Super 8 tournament, which featured some of the top Northeast independent wrestlers.

**203 MIKE SAMPLES** (6'2", 252, 6, 297) Spent most of the year in as a top contender to the USWA heavyweight and Southern titles ... Also competes in Circle City Wrestling ... Claimed for a while that several major Hollywood studios were interested in him ... Solid all-around wrestler has held several titles in Tennessee.

**204 TOMMY RICH** (6', 248, 20, 95) This Southerner is now competing in ECW as a member of the Full-Blooded Italians, but who really knew he was Italian? ... Teamed with Rick Morton for one match only in ECW; they had an impromptu brawl after losing to The Gangstas ... Spent most of the last few years wrestling in the South ... Has made several stops in the USWA ... Held the NWA World title for four days in 1981, and fans still razz him about his short reign.

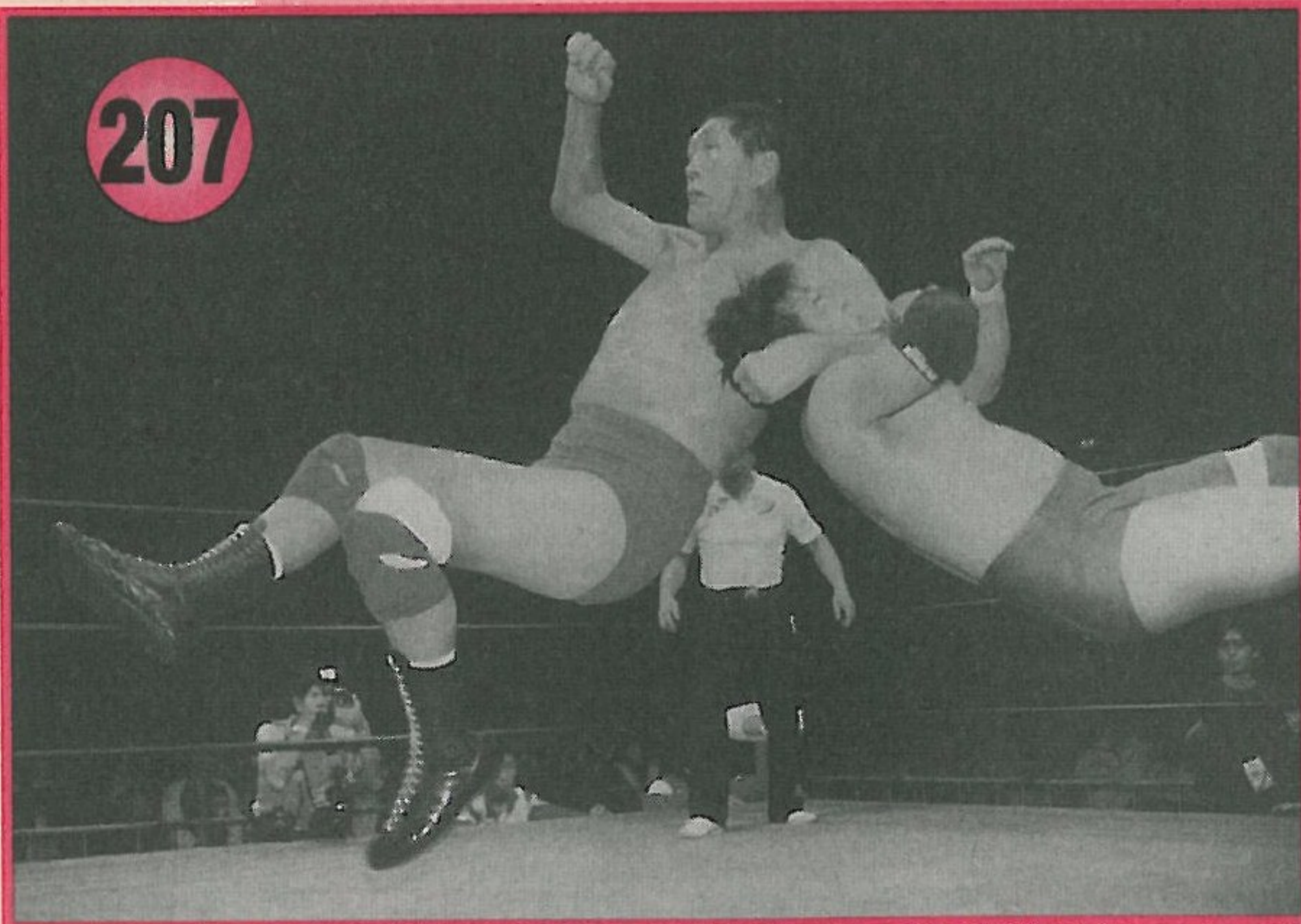
**205 GRAN HAMADA** (5'4", 195, 26, 206) This 46-year-old veteran continues to amaze fans with his fast-paced high-flying style ... One of Michinoku Pro's most popular athletes ... Famed for his top-roped huracanrana and windup headbutt ... Involved in a long feud with Dick Togo and his Kaientai DX team ... Has extensive international experience, particularly in Mexico ... Uses a jumping swinging DDT to finish off many competitors ... Recognized as the man responsible for bringing the Lucha Libre style to the Orient.



Mikey's back and gaining momentum



207



The legendary Baba downs Misawa

**206 JULIO SANCHEZ** (6'2", 235, 4, 394) "Hot Stuff" is a former PCW heavyweight champ ... Has been hearing the cheers of fans since breaking away from Judd the Stud's Stallions in PCW ... Wrestles for several other Mid-Atlantic independents and has made several appearances in WCW ... Also one-half of the Latin Lowriders with Don Montoya ... Uses superkick and several martial arts kicks ... Solid technician who mixes in some high-flying ... Has feuded with Ace Darling and Lance Diamond in PCW.

**207 GIANT BABA** (6'10", 297, 37, 85) A Hall of Fame wrestler who has won more major titles and tournaments than perhaps any wrestler ... Baba no longer wrestles competitive matches high on All-Japan cards ... Prefers instead to wrestle low on cards in legends matches ... As is the case with Antonio Inoki, his counterpart in New Japan, there's no fair way to rate Baba against the younger wrestlers, since he doesn't compete with them anymore.

**208 MIKE ENOS** (6'4", 252, 9, 182) Competes primarily in Midwest independents, but still wrestles in WCW on occasion ... Along with Wayne Bloom, he once held the AWA World tag team title ... He and Bloom shared *PWT's* Rookie of the Year Award in 1989 ... Has also competed in the WWF and Japan.

**209 VINCENT** (5'11", 230, 12, 214) Followed his former boss Ted DiBiase into the NWO, where he now serves as a bodyguard for the group ... Formerly known as Virgil and Soul Train Jones ... A muscular wrestler who relies on power rather than wrestling skill to win matches ... Has not wrestled much in WCW ... Is actually quite a bit faster than one would suspect.

**210 M. WALL STREET** (6'3", 248, 16, 177) Joined the NWO late last year, but James J. Dillon showed that his WCW contract and ordered Wall Street to wrestle for WCW ... Wall Street did so under protest ... An excellent technical wrestler, he won a national title as an amateur wrestler at Syracuse University ... Was also on the varsity football team at Syracuse University ... Formerly known as Mike Rotundo, Irwin R. Schyster, and V.K. Wall Street.

**211 BUNKHOUSE BUCK** (6'5", 239, 6, 190) A former WCW World tag team champion, he

was part of Col. Rob Parker's Stud Stable when he and Dick Slater won the belts ... Former Tennessee Mountain Wrestling champ been lost in the shuffle of late, not really making an impact anywhere ... A native of Tennessee, but no one is exactly sure where in the backwoods he originally came from ... Above average brawler whose best matches were against Dustin Rhodes a few years ago.

**212 CARLOS COLON** (5'10", 225, 32, 104) Has attained legendary status in Puerto Rico ... Retired the WWC Universal title in May so he could cut back on his schedule and spend more time with his family ... During the past year, has feuded with "Jungle" Jim Steele, Abdullah the Butcher, and Kamala II ... Still plans to wrestle on occasion.

**213 B. MAHONEY** (6'2", 321, 5, 259) Trained by Larry Sharpe at the Monster Factory ... Hails from Carteret, New Jersey ... After he wrestled The Sandman in a series of matches, Sandman decided to team with him occasionally ... Likes to use a metal chair as a weapon, but doesn't seem to mind getting hit with chairs, either ... Recently scored a big win over Louie Spicolli ... A feud with Bam Bam Bigelow seems on the horizon, as Bam Bam recently attacked Mahoney from behind ... Remarkably agile, he will occasionally use top-ropes moves.

**214 JIM POWERS** (5'11", 351, 11, 197) Wrestled semi-regularly in WCW earlier this year, but failed to accomplish much under the guidance of Teddy Long ... Has a muscular build, but is quite agile ... Wrestled in the WWF and in Northeast independents before going to WCW ... Held several regional titles, including the PCW U.S. title, which he won from Jeff Jarrett.

**215 BOBBY EATON** (6', 233, 21, 120) Since his tag team with Steven Regal, The Blue Bloods broke up, this Alabama native has been in a major slump ... Outside of the ring, Eaton is considered one of the nicest men you'll ever meet ... Though he has held singles titles in the past, Eaton is

really a tag team specialist ... Started wrestling when he was 17.

**216 VIC STEAMBOAT** (6'1", 243, 11, 218) Wrestles in the Century Wrestling Alliance, where he has held the heavyweight and TV titles ... Also appears in the Mid-Atlantic independents on occasion ... Younger brother of former NWA World champion Rick Steamboat ... Like Rick, uses the flying bodypress as a finishing move.

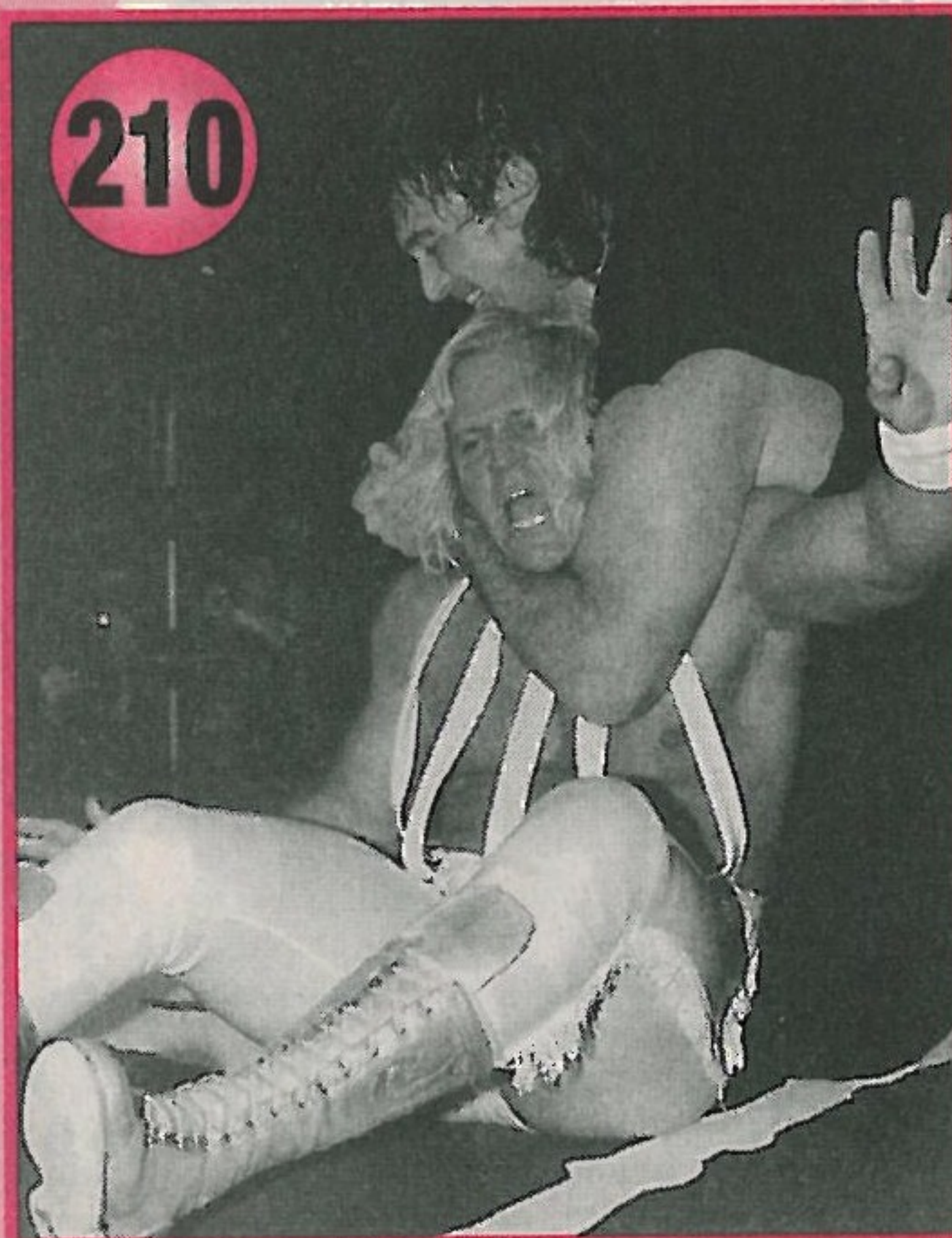
**217 TONY ANTHONY** (6'1", 230, 20, 72) After spending part of the year as T.L. Hopper in the WWF, he returned to the Tennessee independents ... Has competed all across the South ... Was one of the top wrestlers in Smoky Mountain, where he won the heavyweight title and feuded with Tammy "Sunny" Fytch, among others ... A good brawler with some technical skill.

**218 BILLY TRAVIS** (6'1", 228, 11, NL) Known as "Sweet Music Man" ... Lost the USWA Southern title to Spellbinder ... Had a lousy summer, as he fired his manager, Luther Biggs, and was then arrested during a USWA telecast for vandalizing Brian Christopher's truck ... Has since been suspended from the USWA.

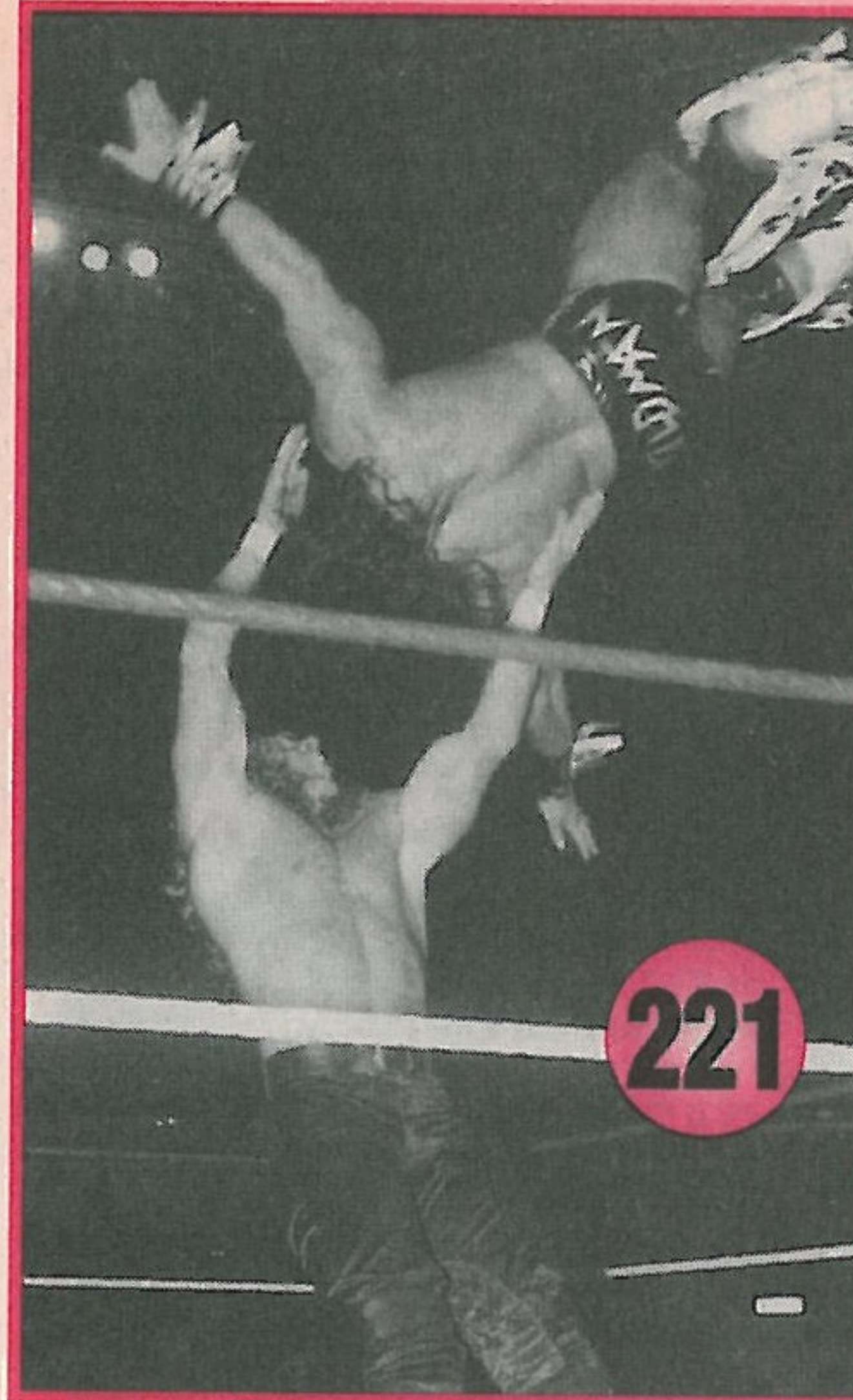
**219 TATSUHIITO TAKAIWA** (5'10", 224, 5, NL) A young New Japan junior heavyweight just now making his mark ... Teams with Koji Kanemoto and Shinjiro Otani in matches involving Jushin Liger, El Samurai, and others ... Favorite move is the Death Valley driver; he often uses a top-rope version of the move ... Recently started using a power bomb as a finisher ... Not as good a high-flyer as most New Japan junior heavyweights, but he's also more powerful than most ... Had a surprisingly strong showing in the 1997 Best of the Super Juniors tourney.

**220 DAMIEN** (5'8", 200, 15, NL) Wrestled as Ultraman 2000 before being forced to unmask ... Frequents FMW in Japan ... Tijuana native ... Mimics his opponents during matches, using their own moves against them ... Currently wrestling in WCW ... Brings a cane to the ring like Sandman and uses it on opponents.

210



Wall Street's stock has fallen of late



Mero should be back in the air again soon

**221 MARC MERO** (6', 235, 7, 43) This year hasn't been the former Johnny B. Badd's best ... Held the Intercontinental belt for one month last fall, but struggled after losing it to Hunter Hearst Helmsley ... Suffered a serious knee injury early in 1997, but was ready to return at press time ... Has amateur boxing experience and learned how to wrestle much faster than most ... His offense includes an impressive array of aerial moves and a knockout punch ... His gorgeous valet, Sable, has attracted quite a bit of fan attention, and Mero doesn't seem to like it.

**222 MENS TEIOH** (5'8", 196, 6, NL) The number-two man of Michinoku Pro's Kaientai DX team is every bit as good a rulebreaker as team leader Dick Togo ... Wrestled as Terry Boy for a while as a way of showing his admiration for Terry Funk ... Hard-hitting power wrestler easily is recognizable because of his bright orange hair ... Stunned fans by beating The Great Sasuke and Super Delfin in recent months ... Joined Dick Togo and Taka Michinoku in ECW earlier this year ... Best move is the Nodowa bomb, a choke-slam into a power bomb.

**223 CHRIS CHAVIS** (6'1", 285, 7, 142) Known as Tatanka while in the WWF ... Native American is the current Ultimate Championship Wrestling heavyweight champ ... Finishes off opponents with his "papoose-to-go" backdrop (modified Samoan drop) ... Has aligned himself with UCW's hated Hart contingent.

**224 TOMMY CAIRO** (6'3", 257, 6, 163) Known by his fans as the "Ironman" ... Is the current UCW North American champion ... Has been battling it out with the Hart clan in Ultimate Championship Wrestling ... Popular New Jersey native is a top contender to Chris Chavis' UCW heavyweight title.

**225 VILLANO V** (5'8", 215, 14, NL) Another son of Ray Mendoza who has entered his father's profession ... Has held some major titles in Mexico, including several trios titles with his brothers ...

Currently in WCW, where he frequently teams with brother IV ... During these tag team matches, they are known to switch without making tags so as to get a fresh man in the ring.

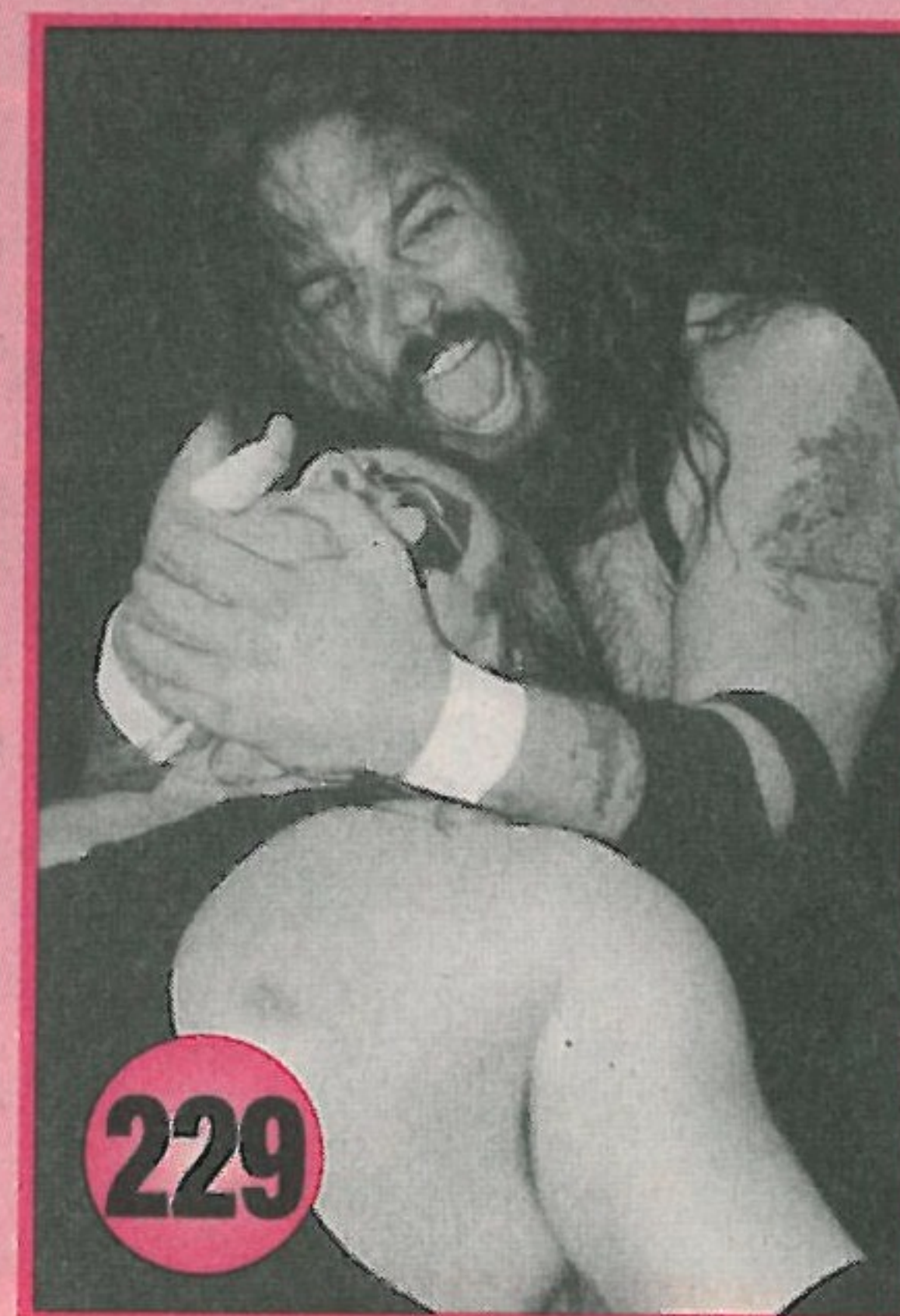
**226 SHIRYU** (5'8", 170, 5, NL) Colorful masked man is a key player in Kaientai DX in Michinoku Pro ... Recently broke a bone above his eye that kept him sidelined for a few weeks ... Has one of the sport's most acrobatic suicide dive variations ... Long-time rival of Super Delfin ... Had a great match for the Central American middleweight title against Kendo last year ... Nicknamed "Rising Dragon."

**227 LORD ZOLTAN** (5'9", 230, 21, 229) One of wrestling's strangest competitors ... Veteran hails from Bourbon Street in New Orleans ... Has been feuding with Johnny Graham and T.C. Reynolds for several years ... Zoltan is a two-time former American Commonwealth light heavyweight champion ... Lost that title to Graham both times.

**228 HALLOWEEN** (5'8", 205, 8, NL) This daredevil is currently splitting his time between Mexico and WCW ... Wrestles in WCW as Ciclope ... Born in Tijuana ... Specializes in brutal barbed-wire matches ... Loves to use high-risk moves that amaze the crowd.

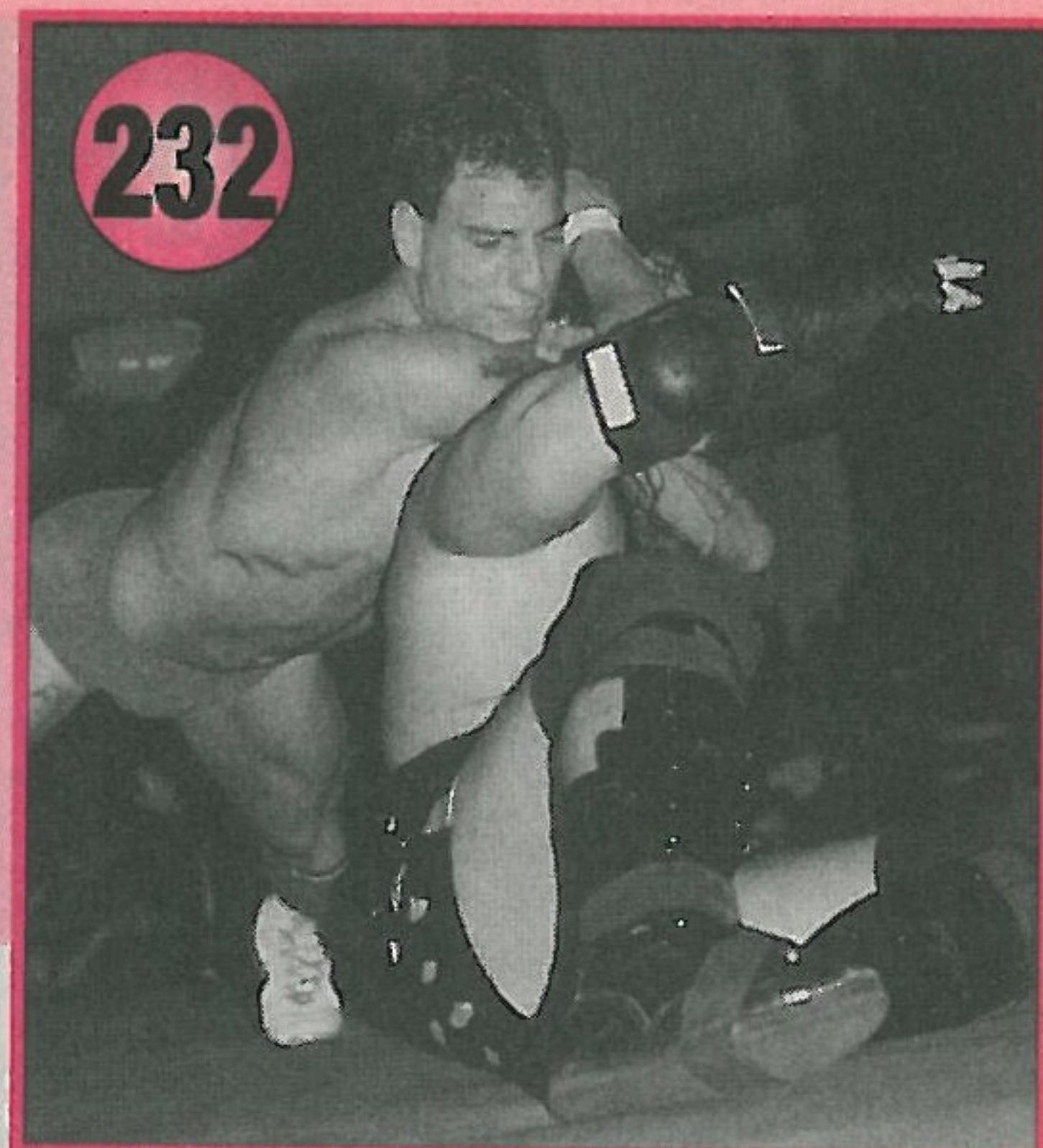
**229 T. RANTULA** (6'5", 310, 10, 205) Current American Commonwealth and former Steel City heavyweight champion ... Nicknamed "The Giant" ... Often managed by The Black Widow ... Has also appeared in WCW, where he has had no success ... Top contenders to his ACW title include Glen Osbourne, Brick Bronsky, and Salvatore Sincere.

**230 TAKA MICHINOKU** (5'7", 169, 6, NL) One of Michinoku Pro's best high-flyers ... Loves to weaken opponents with forearm shots to the head ... One-half of the Dream Chasers with Shoichi Funaki ...



T. Rantula loves to inflict pain

232



Little Guido may be the only Italian in the FBI

Lost a match against Koji Kanemoto in which he could have earned a shot at the J-Crown ... Holds the independent light heavyweight title ... Uses many daring springboard variations, including a turn-around springboard moonsault to the floor ... Master of many intricate leglocks ... Made his American debut with ECW in April ... Favorite move is his Michinoku Driver II.

**231 BUDDY LANDELL** (6', 241, 16, NL) Former Smoky Mountain Wrestling heavyweight champion is now on the comeback trail after suffering a serious knee injury a year ago ... Has had an on-again, off-again relationship with manager Jim Cornette for several years ... Now feuding with Doug Gilbert in the NWA and throughout the South ... Corkscrew elbow and figure-four leglock are still effective finishers for Landell ... Recently had a tryout match with WCW.

**232 LITTLE GUIDO** (5'9", 201, 6, NL) Charter member of The Full-Blooded Italians (FBI) in ECW ... Split with original partner J.T. Smith, who was African-American, not Italian ... Later joined by Tracy Smothers and former NWA World champion Tommy Rich, who don't seem to be of Italian descent, either.

**233 LOU MARCONI** (5'11", 230, 5, 257) Has taken on a new and more aggressive attitude as of late ... Scored several impressive wins over T. Rantula in the past ... Held the Steel City tag team title with both Black Cat and "Handsome" Frank Stalletto ... Has also formed a successful tag team with Derek Stone ... No one is sure why Marconi is nicknamed "Beef Stew."

**234 THE BLUE MEANIE** (6'1", 350, 3, 256) This strange, blue big guy was one of the leaders of ECW's Blue World Order as "Da Blue Guy" ... Was very popular with fans during the BWO days ... How could anyone not love a guy who dyes his hair blue, paints glasses on his face, and wears half-shirts? ... Claims to be from Pepperland and likes blueberry ice cream (what else?) ... Quite agile despite his girth ... Also wrestles frequently in PWX and the MEWF.

**235 EDDIE GOLDEN** (5'10", 222, 9, 226) The nephew of Jimmy Golden ... Has won several singles titles throughout the South ... Once a rulebreaker, he's now cheered by most fans ... Has worked hard to improve his high-flying skills ... Likes to end matches quickly.



241

training center, The Power Plant ... Has found mild success in the tag team ranks, but is still young in his career ... Relies on power moves.

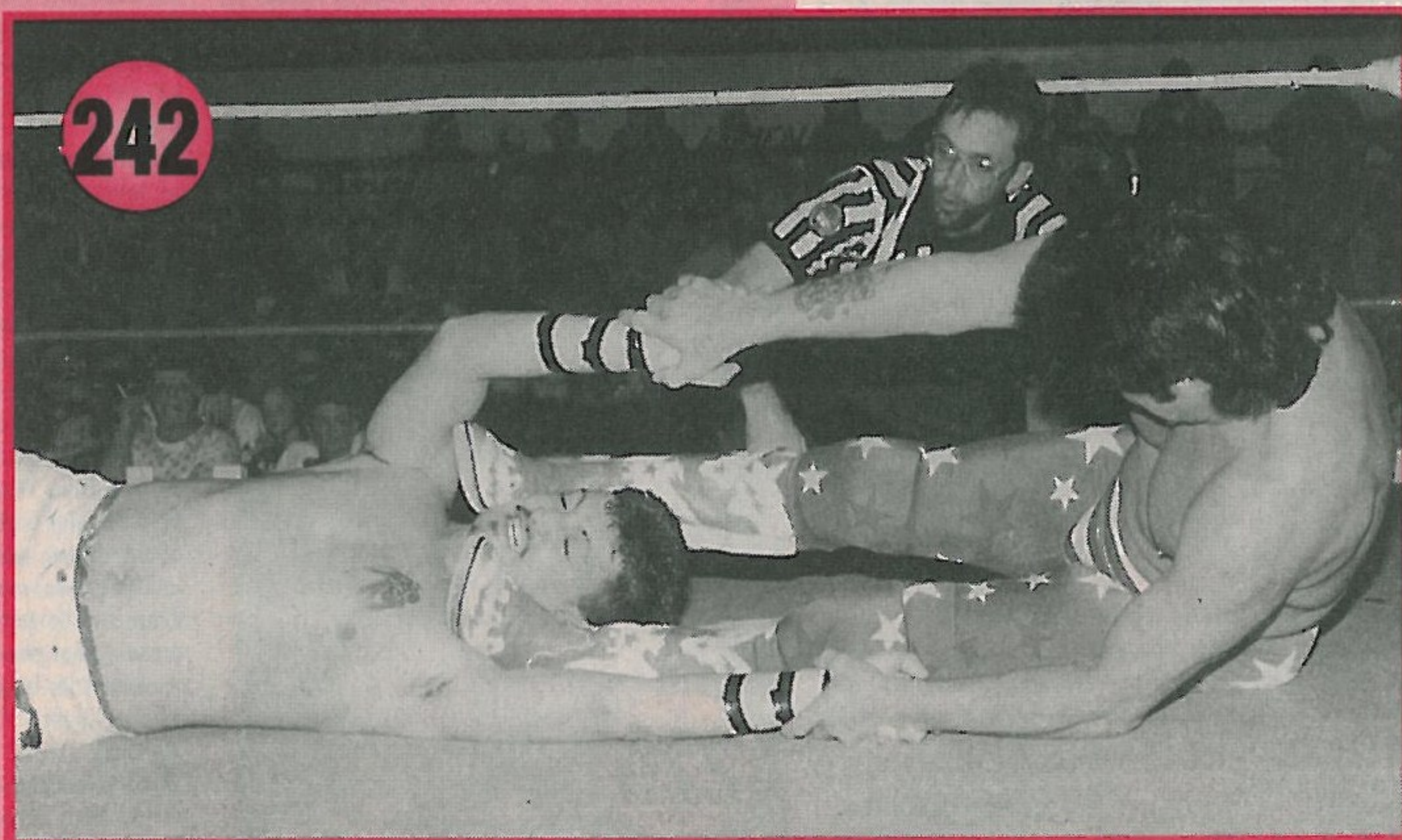
**240 ICE TRAIN** (6'2", 250, 4, 237) Is one of several lower- to mid-card wrestlers in WCW that are slowly improving but have a long way to go before they will become legitimate stars ... Is one of the most powerful men in the sport ... Possess no amateur background and is lacking in scientific skills ... Has a lot of potential, but must be willing to learn.

**241 ITALIAN STALLION** (6'3", 260, 14, 215) Perennial PWF heavyweight champion ... Feud with George South took a strange turn this year when Madd Maxxine got involved ... It got even stranger when Mama Maxxine got involved ... Trains wrestlers in Charlotte, North Carolina ... Has competed in the WWF and WCW.

**242 BILL DUNDEE** (5'7", 214, 23, 168) Veteran wrestler who competes for several independents in the Tennessee area, most notably North American All-Star Wrestling and USWA ... On-again, off-again father/son relationship with J.C. Ice makes news whenever they wrestle in the same federation ... Incredibly durable.

**243 RAY ODYSSEY** (5'10", 225, 11, 193) Known as "The Surfer" ... Competes in Northeast independent organizations ... Former NWA tag team champ with Inferno Kid ... Currently a top contender for both the World Wrestling Alliance junior heavyweight and Northeast Wrestling light heavyweight titles ... Holds several victories over Chris Candido.

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Dundee's favorite way to punish his son is in the ring

**244 SUPER NOVA** (5'11", 227, 3, 320) Original member of the Blue World Order with Stevie Richards and The Blue Meanie ... Called himself "Hollywood" Nova and imitated "Hollywood" Hulk Hogan ... Holds the New Jack City heavyweight title ... Has fallen on some hard times in ECW since the demise of the BWO ... Former Northeast Wrestling light heavyweight champion.

**245 JOE E. LEGEND** (6'3", 265, 6, NL) The other half of Sex & Violence with Sexton Hardcastle ... Has wrestled in Japan and South Africa ... Has held several tag team titles in the Michigan region with Hardcastle ... Biggest feuds have been with The Headbangers, Los Rudos, and The Outlaws ... Trained by Sweet Daddy Siki and managed by "Handsome" Johnny Bradford ... Formed alliances with Sabu, Horace Boulder, and Mike Awesome while in Japan.

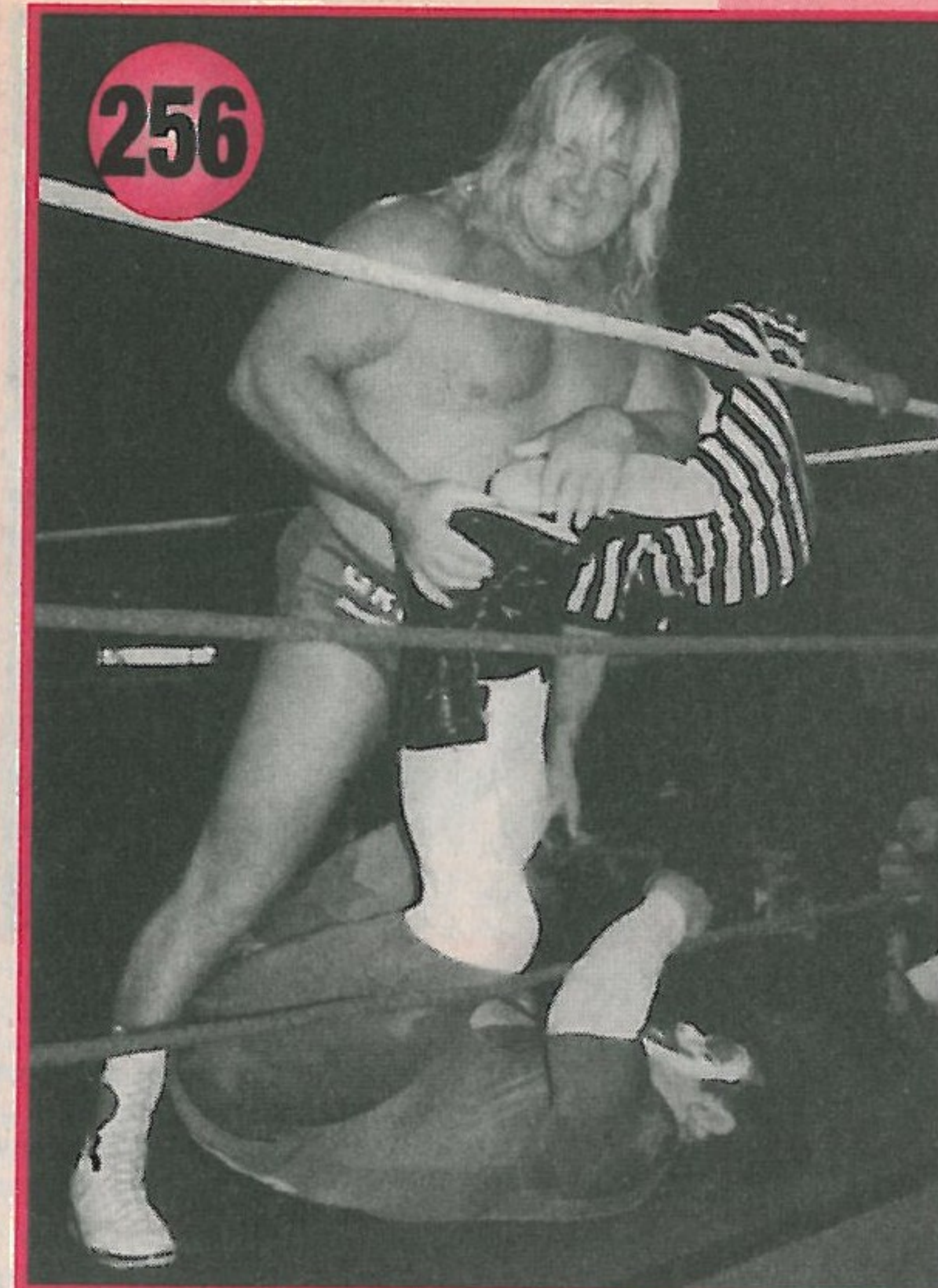
**246 CHAOS** (6', 235, 2, NL) The other half of WCW's High Voltage ... Graduate of WCW's Power Plant along with his tag team partner ... Entered the WCW tag team ranks and has gained some success, but still can't break above mid-card level ... See Rage.

**247 COLORADO KID** (6'3", 236, 4, 274) Recently won a tournament to regain the North American heavyweight title, which he was forced to vacate earlier this year after being injured in an attack by Terry Golden ... USWA title victory over Jerry Lawler last October could have been the upset of the year ... Currently negotiating with WCW.

**248 GEORGE SOUTH** (6'2", 235, 15, 251) Still trying to establish himself as the PWF's top heavyweight ... Has actually beaten Italian Stallion for the belt on occasion, but loses it right back ... Found himself teaming with Madd Maxxine and then also her mother, Mama Maxxine ... Has held every belt in PWF.

**249 INFERNO KID** (6'3", 235, 3, NL) This 21-year-old is a real fan favorite, particularly with young females ... Name describes his hot, intense style ... A former NWA tag champ with Ray Oddysey as The Beach Bums ... Also wrestles in PCW and ECWA ... Sidelined with torn anterior cruciate ligament in left knee ... Rehap has been going well, but he's not expected to return for several months.

256



Valentine doesn't clown around

**250 PERRO AGUAYO JR.** (5'6", 170, 2, NL) This young star is already a main event wrestler in Mexico's AAA ... This can, no doubt, be attributed to a great bloodline; his father is the legendary Perro Aguayo ... Hits a great percentage of his high-risk moves.

**251 FRANK STALLETTO** (6'2", 237, 5, 272) Excellent mat wrestler who likes to ride his opponents and wear them down ... Feuding with IPW heavyweight champion Brick Bronsky ... Has formed a successful team with Lou Marconi in Pennsylvania and Ohio ... Also a top contender to T. Rantula's American Commonwealth heavyweight title.

**252 TYPHOON** (6'7", 384, 13, 202) Holds International Association of Wrestling tag team title with Demolition Ax ... Former WWF World tag team champ with Earthquake (John Tenta) ... Feuding with The Texas Hangmen and the team of Greg Valentine and IAW champion Brian Costello.

**253 RON HARRIS** (6'4", 260, 9, 137) Now in the WWF as a part of The Disciples of the Apocalypse along with twin brother Don, Brian Lee, and Crush ... Rides a motorcycle to the ring ... Is a pure brawler with little technical skill ... Was in the WWF before as half of the Blu Brothers ... Wrestled several times in ECW where he and brother Don have had memorable brawls with The Gangstas.

**254 SEXTON HARDCASTLE** (6'4", 240, 4, NL) Teams with Joe E. Legend to form a provocatively named team Sex & Violence ... S & V have dominated the tag team scene in the Michigan area and Canadian independents ... Got started in wrestling by winning an essay contest in a local newspaper on why he wanted to be a pro wrestler ... His prize was free training by Sweet Daddy Siki ... Briefly feuded with Legend before teaming with him ...

Sometimes managed by "Handsome" Johnny Bradford ... Resembles Chris Jericho in looks and style.

**255 CIEN CARAS** (6'3", 235, 18, 252) Top rulebreaker in Mexico during the 1970s and 1980s ... Feuded with such favorites as Mil Mascaras and El Canek ... Oldest brother in the Dinamitas trio ... Despite his rulebreaker status, he is loved in his hometown of Lagos de Moreno.

**256 GREG VALENTINE** (6', 243, 26, 173) Part-time WCW competitor ... Has made a major impact on the independent scene ... Former NWA and WWF World tag team champion ... Held Intercontinental titles in the WWF and the U.S. belt in the NWA ... Now competing regularly in the International Association of Wrestling, where he has won the heavyweight title twice ... Known for his figure-four leglock.

**257 MR. HUGHES** (6'5", 308, 9, 200) Competes in Midwest and Eastern independents and occasionally comes to the East Coast ... Has been a bodyguard for Lex Luger and Hunter Hearst Helmsley ... Also wrestled in ECW and the AWA ... Former football player for Kansas State University ... Steve Williams helped him launch his career.

**258 DON HARRIS** (6'5", 257, 13, 164) Another member of Disciples Of The Apocalypse ... Twin of Ron, another member of DOA ... Loves to brawl his way through matches ... Was in the WWF before as half of the Blu Brothers.

**259 VANCE NEVADA** (5'10", 195, 4, 239) Canadian Wrestling Federation tag team champion with J.T. Atlas ... Held the Canadian Unified junior heavyweight title ... Known as "World Class" Vance Nevada ... Has had feuds with Robby Royce, The Dark Angels, and, most recently, The Frat Pack (Chad Ripley & Jeffrey Donovan) ... These matches have shown Nevada can adapt to almost any style.

**260 SPELLBINDER** (6'4", 288, 5, 346) After feuding with Brian Christopher, he now finds himself reluctantly helping Christopher in his battles with Billy Travis and Doomsday ... Won the USWA heavyweight title from Travis but lost it the next day to Doomsday ... Briefly wrestled in the WWF.

**261 SGT. CRAIG PITTMAN** (6'2", 270, 3, 99) After a getting off to a fast start in WCW, this former Marine has seen his career come to something of standstill, rarely winning matches against quality competition ... A very tough individual with a good amateur background, opponents have adapted to his style ... Needs a few more years of seasoning before he can become one of the big boys.

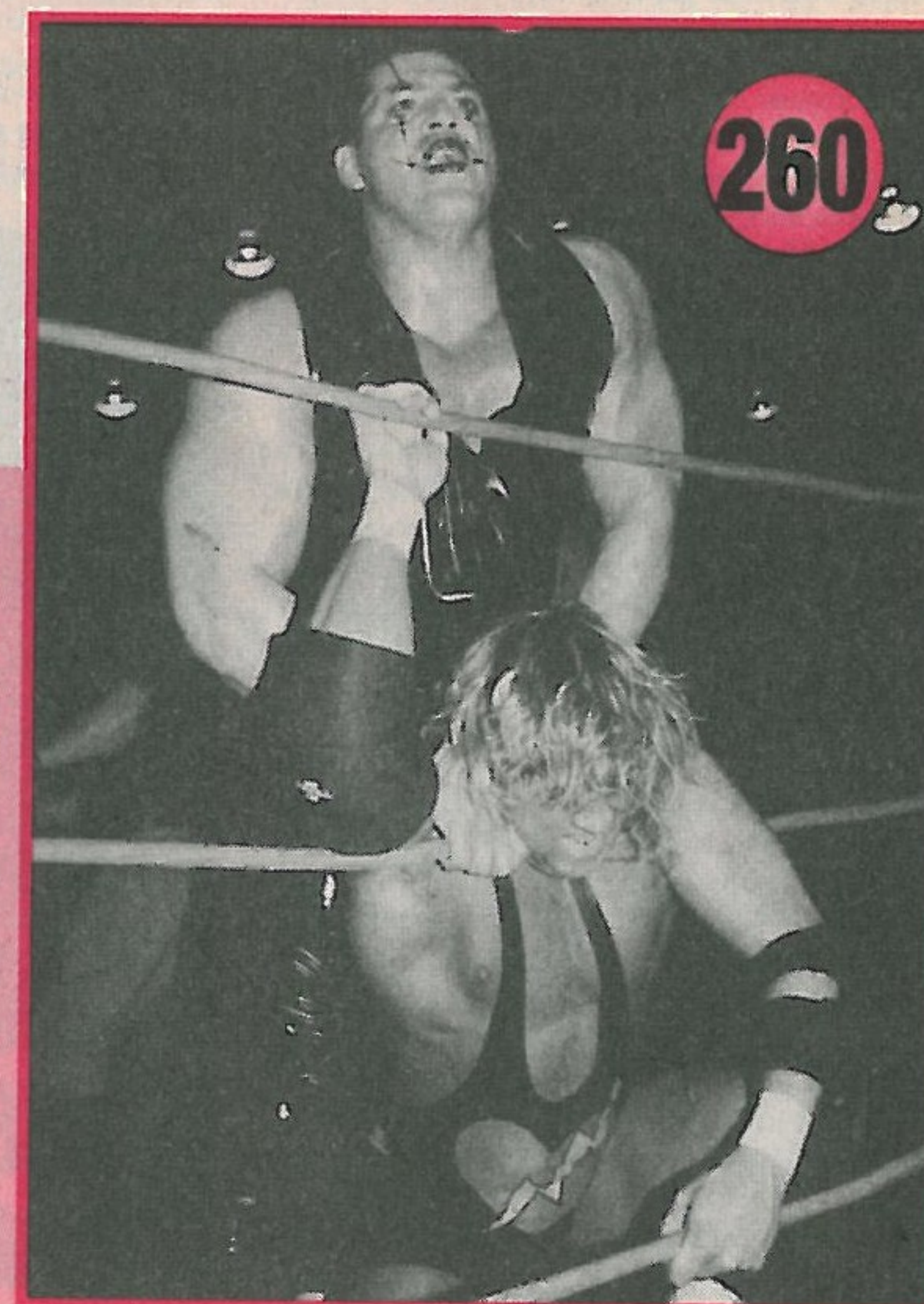
**262 ROBERT GIBSON** (5'11", 225, 20, 172) Veteran tag team specialist is now competing in several Southern independents ... Still sometimes teams with former Rock 'n' Roll Express partner Rick Morton ... Appeared with Morton on several WCW Monday Nitro shows, with little success ... Trains wrestlers in Florida.

**263 DOS CARAS** (5'10", 225, 27, NL) Younger brother of Mil Mascaras ... One of the legends of Mexican wrestling is still one of the best mat wrestlers in that country ... Canek's main rival to the heavyweight title in the 1980s ... Former UWA heavyweight champion ... Was renowned for his high-flying skills when he was younger, but now keeps his offense primarily on the mat.

**264 TERRY GOLDEN** (6', 240, 3, NL) One of the most hated men in North American All-Star Wrestling after brutally attacking Colorado Kid during a public appearance in Nashville ... Placed a \$5,000 bounty on Kid's head ... Reminds fans of "Stone Cold" Steve Austin in looks, wrestling style, and foul language during interviews.

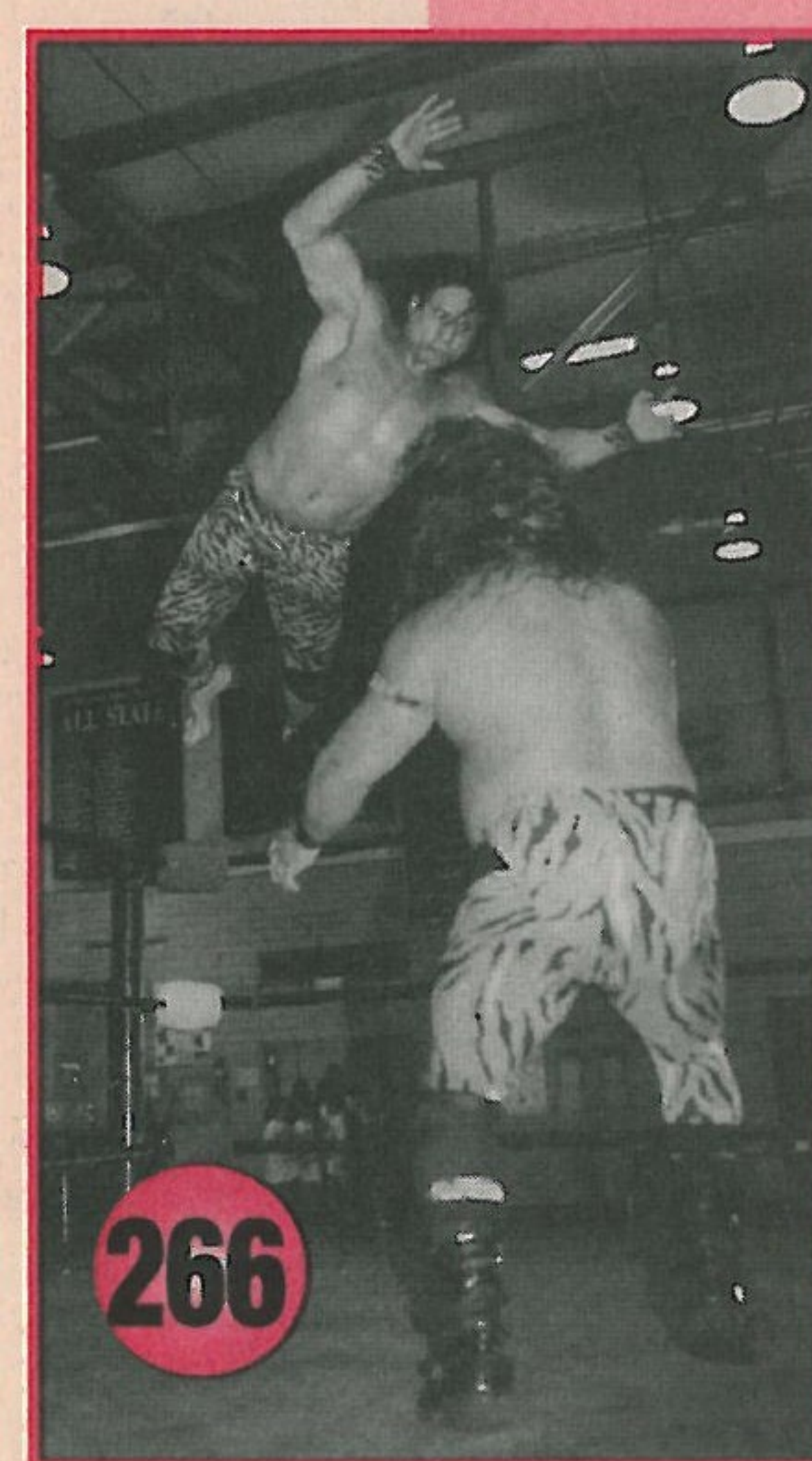
**265 STEVEN DUNN** (6'1", 225, 10, NL) Formed a successful team with Paul Diamond in the USWA, but split from him to help Flash Flanagan in his feud with PG-13 ... Trained by Fritz Von Erich ... Spent several years in the Pacific Northwest ... Primarily a tag team specialist.

260



Spellbinder binds up Dunn with the ropes





266

Snuka regularly feasts on The Metal Maniac

**266 JIMMY SNUKA** (6', 260, 28, 185) Still uses his famous "Superfly" flying bodypress from the top rope to finish off his opponents ... Long-running feud with Metal Maniac has no end in sight ... Competes mostly in Northeast independents ... Made a surprise appearance at the 1996 Survivor Series in 1996 and wrestled well in a tag team match.

**267 JOHNNY GRAHAM** (5'10", 210, 10, 246) Popular American Commonwealth light heavyweight champion has been working as a referee in Int'l Pro Wrestling ... Settled a score with Reckless Youth when Rocco Rock allowed Graham to pin Youth during Rock's match against him ... Toughest opponents have included Moondog Moretti, "Playboy" Buddy Rose, and Billy Two Eagles.

**268 CHRISTIAN CAGE** (6'1", 225, 2, NL) High-flying Toronto native is a member of a Canadian rulebreaking clique called Thug Life ... Has wrestled all over North America, from Canada to the Southern independents, where he won several regional titles ... Trained by Ron Hutchinson and Sweet Daddy Siki ... Likes to use the Texas cloverleaf and slingshot moonsault as finishers.

**269 KEN ARDEN** (6', 310, 10, NL) Now without guidance because manager Paul Adams has been suspended by North American All-Star Wrestling ... Ken and his brother, Keith, are known as The Centerfolds in North American All-Star Wrestling ... Lost North American tag belts to Colorado Kid and Billy Briggs.

**270 PAUL DIAMOND** (6'2", 235, 14, NL) Former AWA World tag team champion with Pat Tanaka ... Teamed with Steven Dunn for a few months in the USWA, but has since split from him ... He was unhappy with Dunn's involvement in Flash Flanagan's feud with PG-13 ... Although he has found his niche in tag team wrestling, he is also a skilled singles competitor.

**271 VAMPIRO CANADIENSE** (6'3", 235, 8, 305) His good looks make him a hit with female fans in Mexico ... Not a great technical wrestler, but he still wins a majority of his bouts ... Former UAW heavyweight champion ... Would love to be a musician ... Was really popular until he lost the Mexican title to Canek ... Has also competed in ECW and Japan.

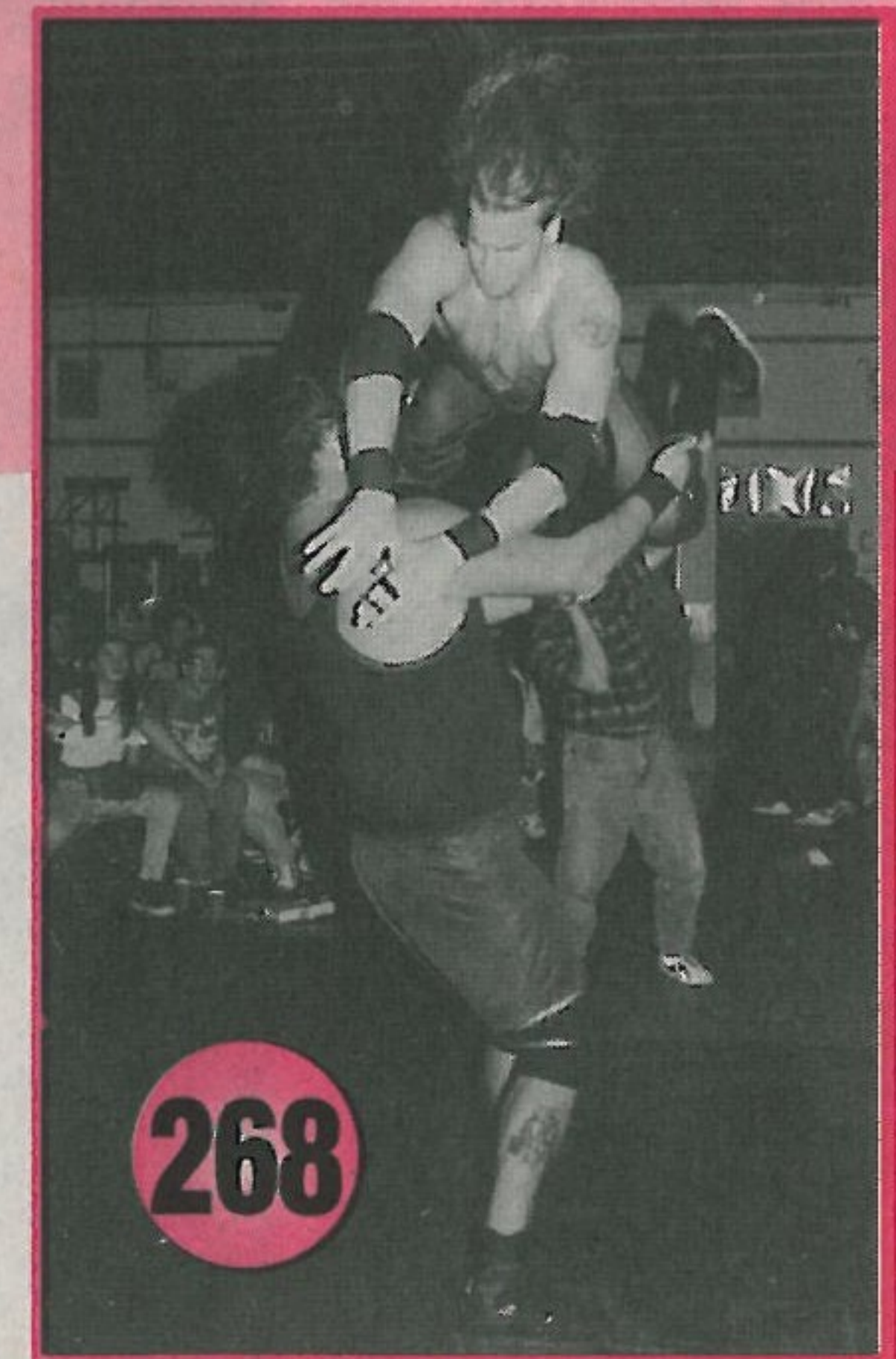
**272 DON MONTOYA** (6', 300, 2, NL) One-half of the Latin Lowriders with Julio Sanchez, with whom he once held the New Jack City tag title ... Wrestles in the NWA Mid-Atlantic area and New Jack City Wrestling ... Very agile for his size.

**273 RIC TITAN** (6'6", 272, 6, NL) Recently shed his New Razor Ramon persona ... Suffered injuries at the hands of Mabel a few months ago ... Split from former partner The New Diesel and beat him in a loser-leaves-the-USWA match ... Brought in to the WWF by Jim Ross as a way to appease the fans who still wanted to see Razor Ramon ... They hated him from the start.

**274 TIGER MASK IV** (5'7", 171, 7, 293) Protege of the original Tiger Mask ... Often teams with The Great Sasuke in his feud against Kaientai DX ... Took some time off to recover from nagging injuries this spring ... Soars from one corner of the ring to the other with his flying headbutt ... Michinoku Pro's best counterwrestler ... Has a German suplex in his repertoire, but like his mentor, he prefers the Tiger suplex as a finisher ... Won a bloody match last year against Mens Teioh for the UWA middleweight title.

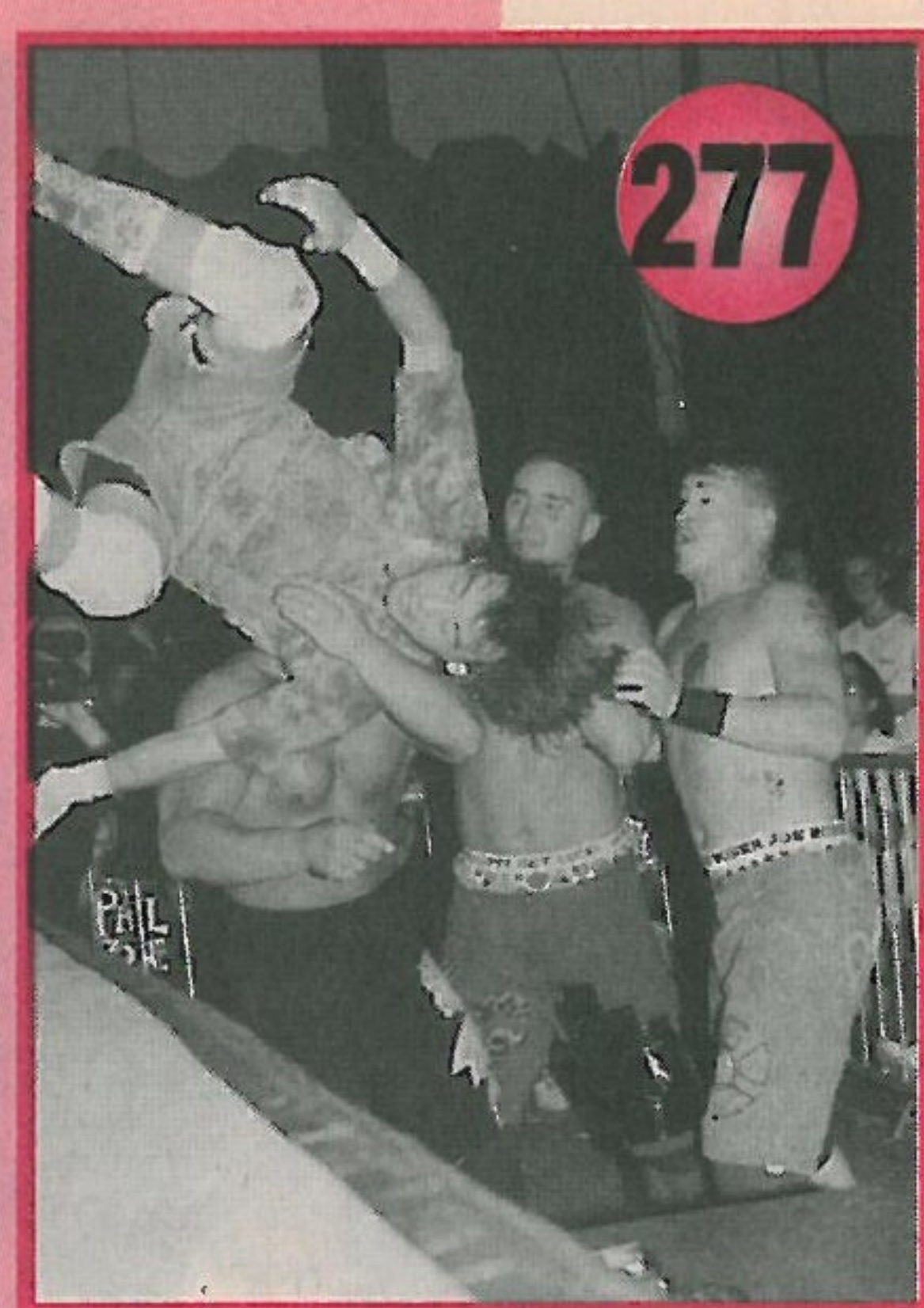
**275 DEMOLITION AX** (6'2", 303, 10, 262) An International Association of Wrestling tag team champion with Typhoon ... Held the WWF World tag title three times with Smash ... Locked in feuds with The Texas Hangmen and the team of Greg Valentine and IAW champion Brian Costello ... Clearly a tag team specialist.

**276 GRAN NANIWA** (5'7", 194, 3, NL) Exciting 21-year-old wears giant crab claws to the ring ... Lost a thrilling match to Koji Kanemoto at this year's Best of the Super Junior tournament ... Long-time pupil



268

Cage is a well-traveled youngster



277

Spike loves to take risks

and partner of Super Delfin ... Frequently executes a "Frankensteiner" from the top rope to the floor ... Challenged Ultimo Dragon for the J-Crown late last year ... Sworn enemy of the Kaientai DX ... Signature move is called a spinning doctor bomb.

**277 SPIKE DUDLEY** (5'7", 155, 2, NL) The last of the Dudley brothers to arrive in ECW ... Only Dudley to not wear glasses, but he might have contact lenses ... The runt of the Dudley litter is shunned by half-brothers D-Von and Buh Buh Ray ... Has formed a team with Mikey Whipwreck ... Superb aerialist executes many high-risk moves ... Greatest win of career was over Bam Bam Bigelow in August.

**278 YUJI YASURAOA** (5'11", 198, 5, NL) Teamed with Lance Storm to win the WAR international junior tag team title on two occasions ... Lost to Rey Misterio Jr. at Slamboree '97 ... Scored one of the biggest upsets of the year by beating Jushin Liger on for the international junior heavyweight title ... Some consider the win over Liger a fluke, as it came one day after the end of New Japan's grueling Best of the Super Junior tournament ... Level of competition was hurt by the departures of Ultimo Dragon and Chris Jericho from WAR.

**279 "BIG" DICK DUDLEY** (6'3", 285, 4, 310) Probably the strongest and toughest member of the Dudley clan in ECW ... Has an intimidating stare and a devastating choke-slam ... Was choke-slammed off a stage and through a table by Tommy Dreamer at ECW's Barely Legal pay-per-view ... Wrestled a light schedule after returning from a serious knee injury earlier this year ... Usually accompanies his half-brothers to the ring and interferes liberally in their matches ... Does not get along with half-brother Spike.

**280 YOSHIHIRO TAJIRI** (5'7", 176, 3, NL) Hot young junior heavyweight of Big Japan ... Made a name for himself when he wrestled Shinjiro Otani on New Japan's January 4 Tokyo Dome show ... Jushin Liger was impressed enough by his performance to invite him to participate in the Best of the Super Junior tourney ... Did well and upset Otani ... Wrestled recently on WWF's *Raw Is War* ... Favors strong kicks and submission holds ... Just 22, Tajiri should have a bright future, especially if Liger takes him under his wing.

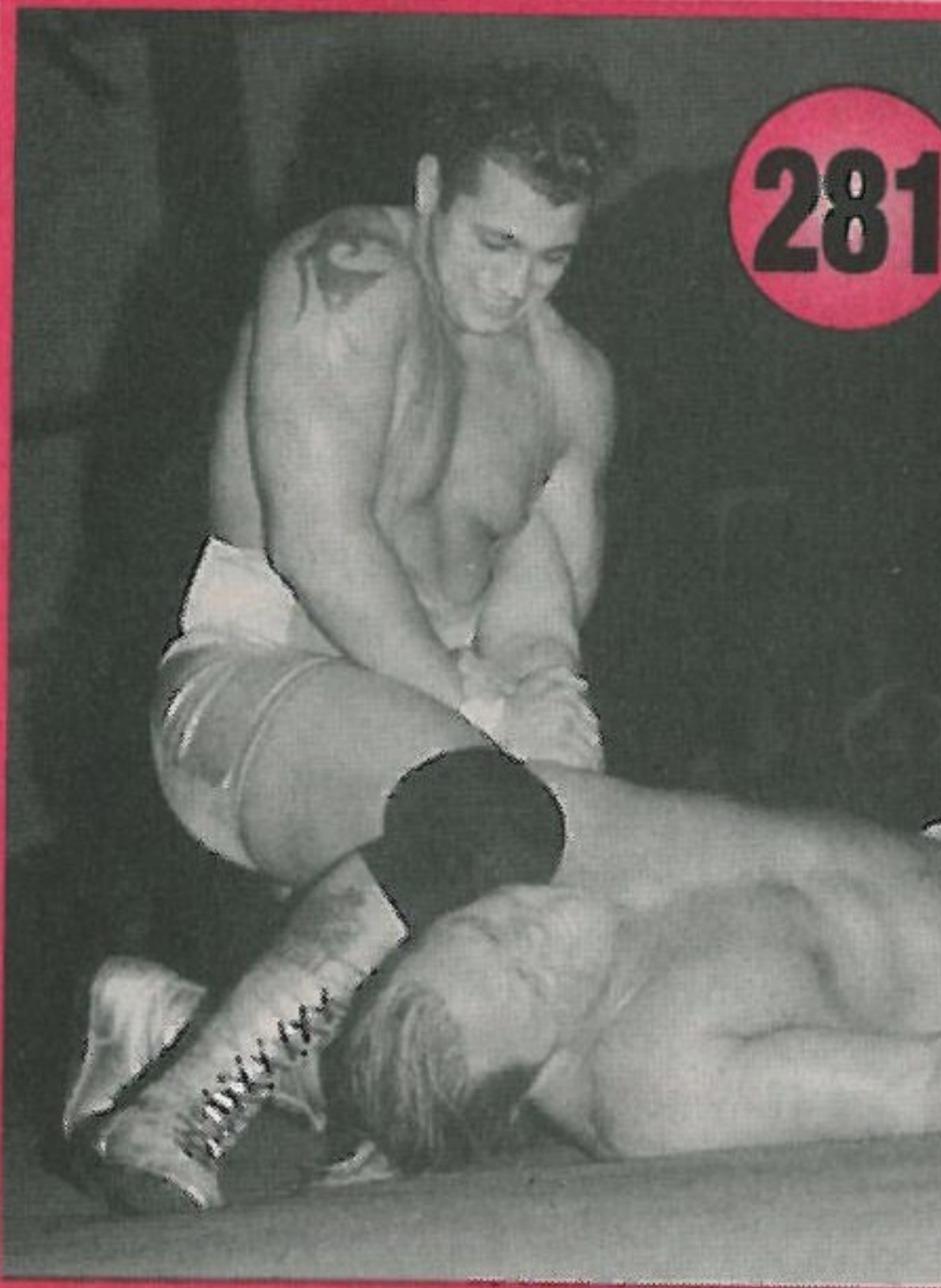
**281 CHRIS CHETTI** (5'10", 227, 1, NL) A rookie in ECW ... Graduate of ECW's House of Hardcore ... Has lost many matches, but he strives to improve ... His cousin, Taz, is a demanding mentor ... Has wrestled Taz for the ECW TV belt several times, but he has yet to beat him.

**282 MADMAN PONDO** (6', 237, 9, 383) Loves to wrestle in barbed-wire baseball bat matches and "four corners of pain" matches ... One recent match against Ox Harley saw two sides of the ring surrounded by cacti and the other two sides surrounded by pits of rubbing alcohol, which burned both men horribly when it came into contact with their open wounds ... Also wrestles for the New Jersey-based NWA ... A top contender to Ian Rotten's IWA heavyweight title.

**283 TWIGGY RAMIREZ** (5'8", 219, 2, NL) Definitely one of the strangest characters on the East Coast independent circuit ... Has sided with the NWA in its promotional war with Kentucky's IWA ... Wears makeup and fishnet stockings to the ring ... Managed by another strange character, Madonna Wayne Gacy ... One-half of Downward Spiral with "Adorable" Adrian Hall ... Those two have held several regional tag team titles ... Opponents describe him as being totally out of control.

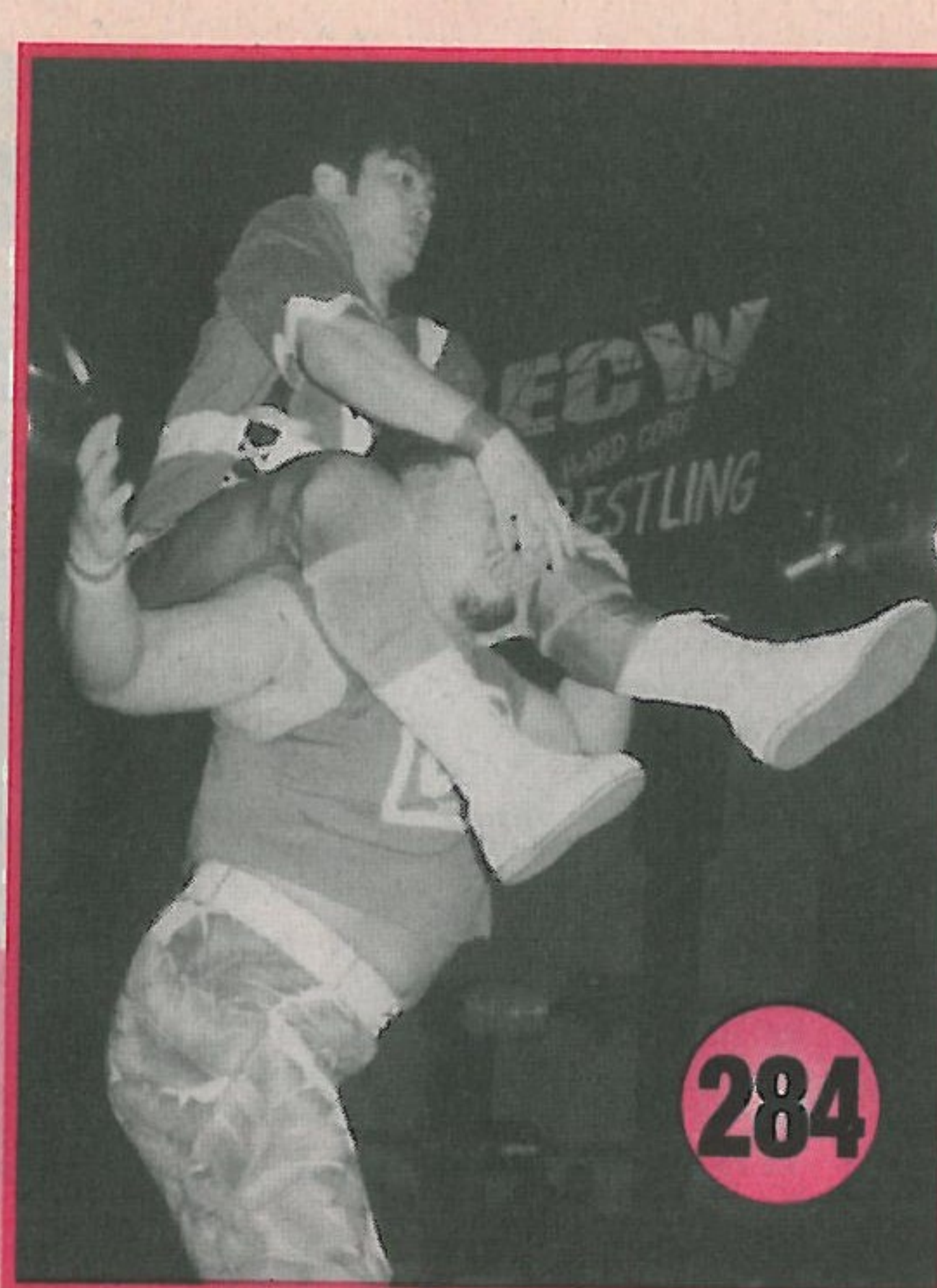
**284 MASATO YAKUSHIJI** (5'5", 155, 4, NL) Smallest member of The Great Sasuke's Seikigun team, but he compensates for his lack of size with great speed and agility ... Was trained by Dick Togo, with whom he's now feuding ... Uses many moves from the Rey Misterio Jr. playbook ... Filled in for Gran Naniwa at the ECW PPV and was impressive ... Shows great skill when he strings together a series of armdrags to bewilder an opponent ... Also uses a remarkable baseball slide that he turns into a headscissors.

**285 REGGIE B. FINE** (6'3", 235, 8, 238) Former USWA mainstay ... As King Reg'ald, he defeated Jerry Lawler for the USWA title (with help



281

Chetti's a hardcore competitor



284

Yakushiji's a Japanese Rey Misterio Jr.

from Queen Nikki) ... Was aligned with Men on a Mission when they were in the USWA, but was left behind ... Briefly held the USWA tag title with Brickhouse Brown.

**286 HEADHUNTER I** (5'11", 440, 5, 258) Wrestled briefly in the WWF as a team under the guidance of Jim Cornette ... Hefty, powerful competitors usually compete mostly in Japan, Puerto Rico, and the Dominican Republic ... Despite rather large size, he can execute moonsaults and topes ... Not too technically skilled, but thirst for blood more than makes up for it.

**287 JERRY ESTRADA** (5'10", 220, 20, 94) This legendary bad guy is sometimes cheered because of his mildly comic in-ring antics ... Brimming with charisma, but relies on underhanded tactics to win matches ... Former light heavyweight champion in Mexico ... Had a big rivalry with current All-Japan Triple Crown champ Mitsuharu Misawa early in his career.

**288 BRAD ARMSTRONG** (6', 226, 16, 160) Son of Bob Armstrong, and older brother of Scott, Steve, and Jesse James ... Only Armstrong besides Jesse James in this year's "500" ... Competes occasionally in WCW, where he was the last light heavyweight champ ... Once defeated Ted DiBiase for the NWA National title ... Also appears in Southern independents from time to time.

**289 KEITH ARDEN** (6', 439, 4, NL) One-half of The Centerfolds tag team in North American All-Star Wrestling ... Both he and his brother, Kenny, were managed by Paul Adams until Adams was suspended by NAASW for one year ... A former NAASW tag team champion ... Claims he used to be a highly paid male stripper on the French Riviera.

**290 ADRIAN HALL** (6'2", 221, 8, NL) Known as both "Adorable" and "Exotic" Adrian ... Flamboyant, effeminate, and hated by fans on the East Coast, Hall wears

flower-patterned tights to the ring ... Made successful comeback after being injured in an auto accident several years ago ... Has won several regional light heavyweight titles throughout the Mid-Atlantic states ... Long-time feud with Ricky Blues is still simmering ... Regularly teams with Twiggy Ramirez as Downward Spiral and is managed by Madonna Wayne Gacy.

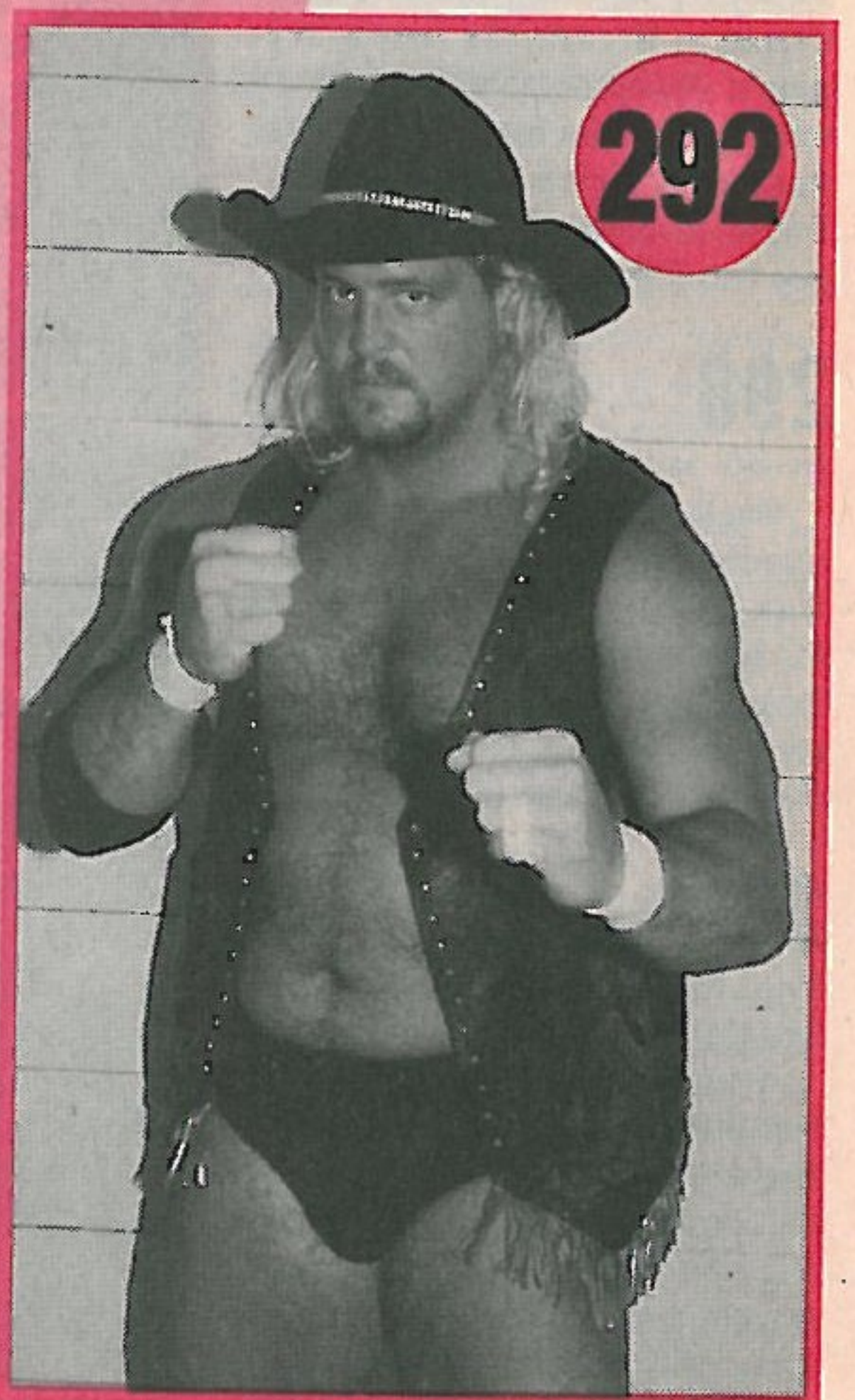
**291 JUSTIN ST. JOHN** (6'2", 239, 3, 326) Two-time former North American heavyweight champion ... Defeated Colorado Kid to win the belt each time, but Kid managed to regain the title from him both times ... Has scored several wins over Rick Morton and rival Scotty McKeever in the last year ... Currently competing in independents throughout Virginia and West Virginia.

**292 BOBBY DUNCUM JR.** (6'6", 296, 5, NL) Son of veteran brawler Bobby Duncum ... Wrestled extensively in Japan before returning to the United States to compete in Texas, where he feuded with Chris Adams ... Carries a bullrope with a cowbell to the ring and uses it on opponents ... Trying to climb the ladder in ECW.

**293 SCOTTY MCKEEVER** (6'1", 220, 5, 289) Former fan favorite is one of the most despised rulebreakers in West Virginia ... Briefly wrestled for North American All-Star Wrestling ... Now feuding with fellow rulebreaker Justin St. John in West Virginia.

**294 MASCARA SAGRADA** (5'11", 220, 14, NL) Current IWC champion in Mexico ... Once very popular, his career now seems to be on the decline ... An average all-around wrestler who pulls out major wins when he most needs them.

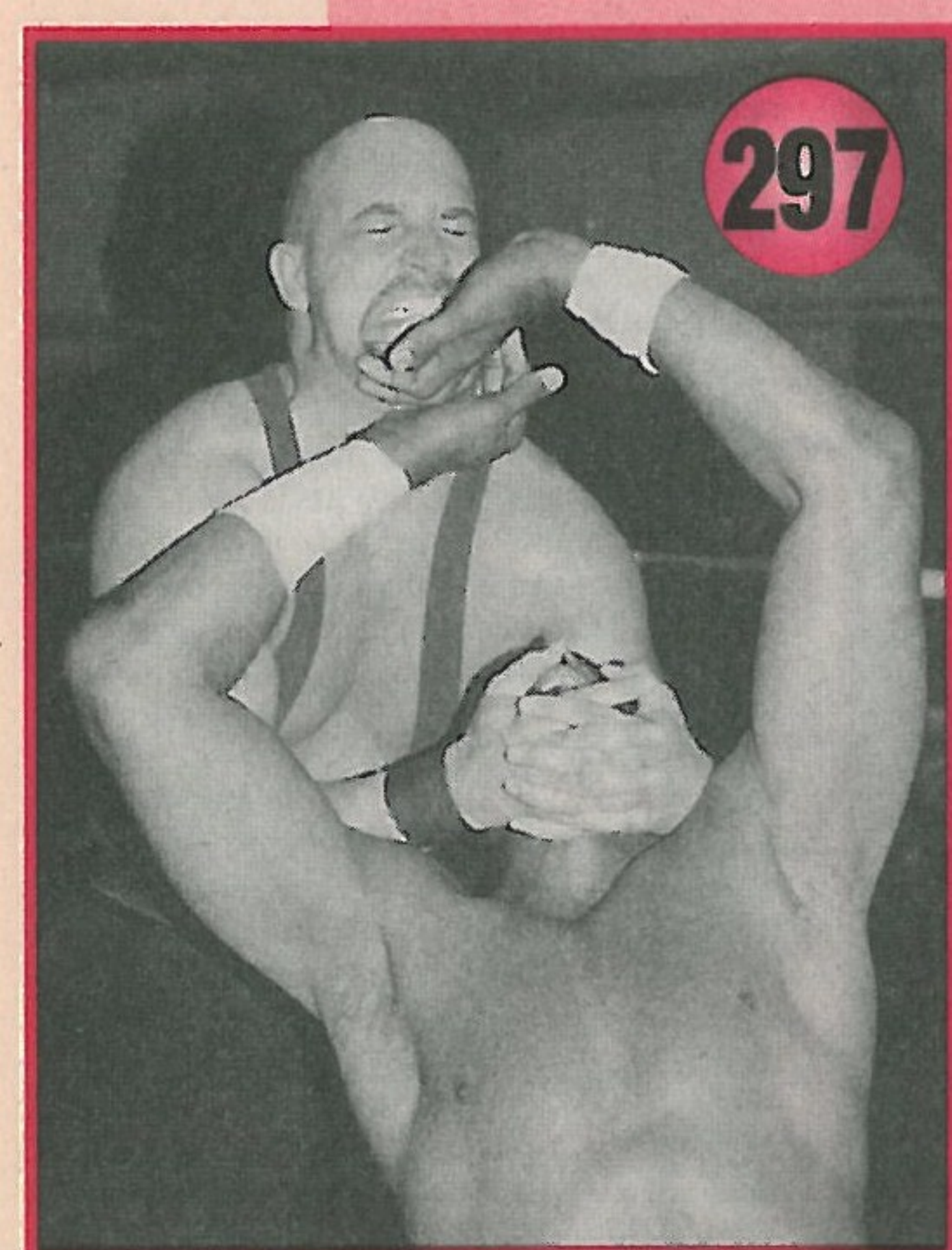
**295 THE RENEGADE** (5'10", 256, 3, 283) Has spent the past year in limbo in WCW, where he has picked up a few victories, but none against mid-to-top-level talent ... His wrestling skills have improved over the past year, but his real asset is still his power ... Obviously influenced by the Ultimate Warrior ... Needs to find a good manager to guide him.



292

Duncum Jr.'s following a tradition of toughness





Cicero loves to punish

**296 HEADHUNTER II** (5'11", 390, 5, 266) He and brother Headhunter I briefly appeared in the WWF with Jim Cornette as their manager ... Ever see a 400-pound man execute a tope like a lithe lightweight? Just watch this guy ... Grew up in the Dominican Republic ... Not very skilled, but doesn't need to be skilled when he can gain the upper hand just by coming after his opponent with a fork or his teeth.

**297 JIMMY CICERO** (6'1", 245, 5, 313) "Wiseguy" held the MEWF Mid-Atlantic title for several months this year and is currently a co-holder of the MEWF tag team title with Steve Corino ... Became the first heavyweight champion of NWA 2000 by winning a 15-man battle royal ... Has made a few appearances in ECW ... Trained by former WWF World champion Ivan Koloff.

**298 SCUFLIN' HILLBILLY** (6'2", 302, 1, NL) This fan favorite hails from Sikeston, Missouri ... One-half of the NAASW tag team champions with partner Billy Briggs ... Won the title with Colorado Kid, but Kid handed over his share of the title to Briggs ... Hillbilly and Briggs are engaged in a feud with former tag team champions The Centerfolds.

**299 J.T. SMITH** (6', 235, 7, 210) Began his career in the Tri-State Wrestling Alliance and briefly held that federation's heavyweight title ... Started the ECW group called the Full-Blooded Italians ... Lost a loser-must-leave-ECW challenge match to 2 Cold Scorpio late last year, but returned to a loud ovation at the Barely Legal pay-per-view ... Has since wrestled occasionally in East Coast independents ... Injuries have slowed him down considerably.

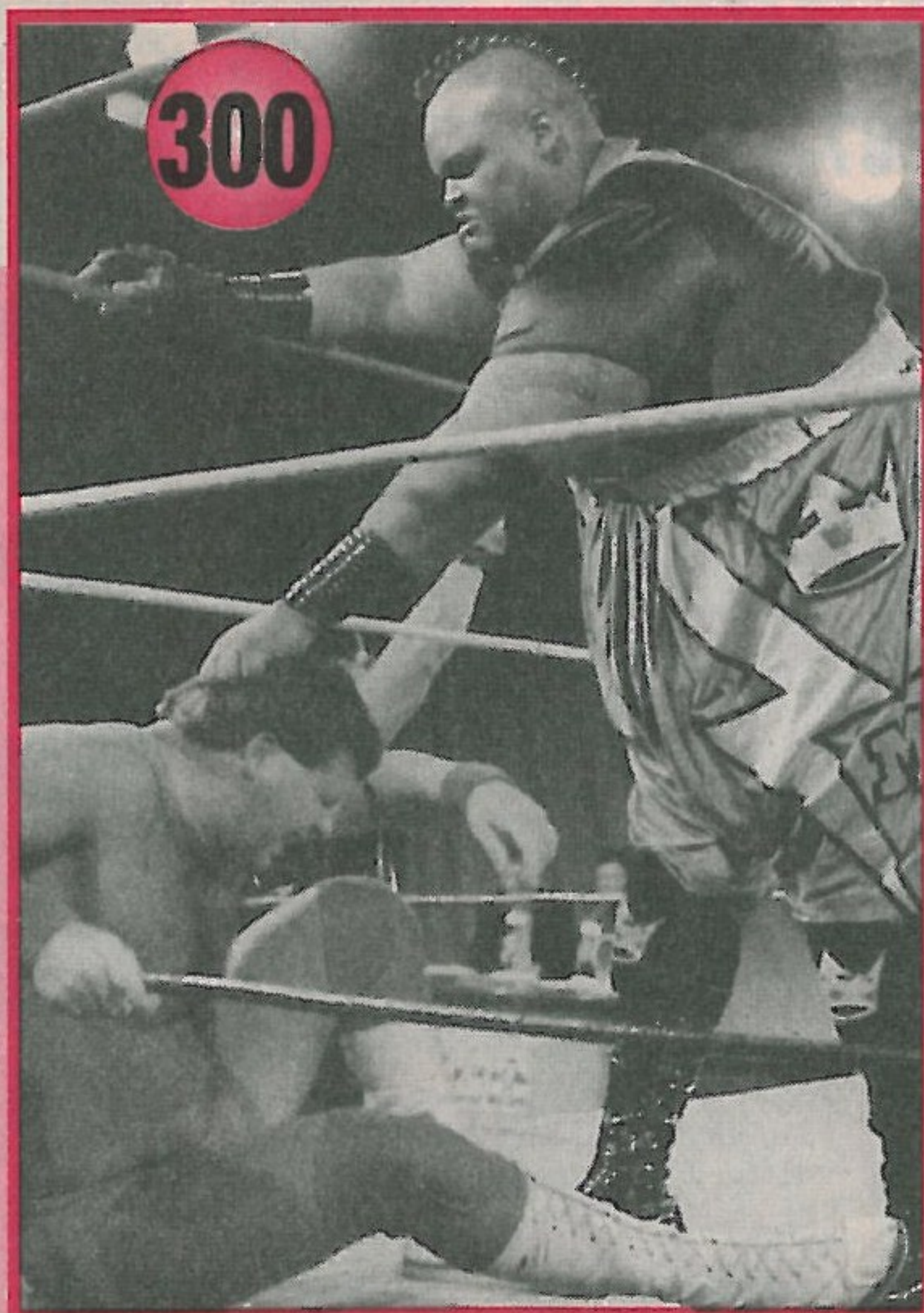
**300 MABEL** (6'10", 503, 5, 53) The 1995 WWF King of the Ring now occasionally wrestles for independents in Tennessee and the Carolinas ... Not quite as agile as he was during his WWF days ... Won the PWF tag team title last year with Mo ... Former USWA Southern champion and WWC Universal champion.

**301 GORGEOUS GEORGE III** (5'10", 225, 6, 322) The "Gorgeous One" left the Mid-Atlantic independents for AAA earlier this year ... Has fared well in AAA, but has yet to win a title ... Good, solid all-around wrestler ... Still claims to be related to the original Gorgeous George, but has never offered a DNA test as proof ... Also wrestled in USWA and SMW, and may be headed to WCW.

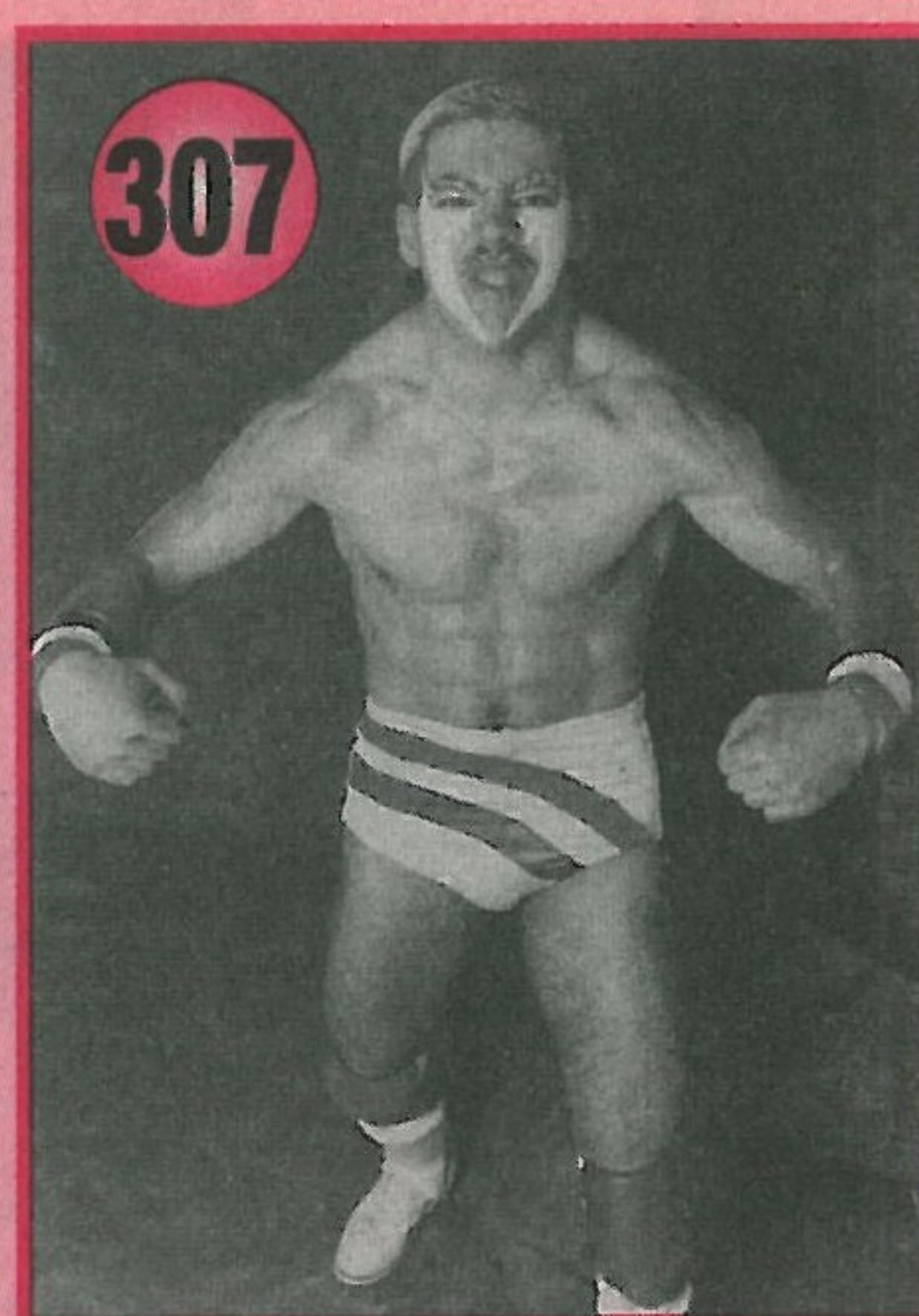
**302 KNUCKLES NELSON** (6'3", 249, 6, 255) A member of The Brotherhood in the Century Wrestling Alliance along with The Bronx Bombers, Rick Fuller, Tre, and Baldo ... Former CWA TV champ ... Has appeared in WCW ... A Reno, Nevada, native.

**303 DUSTY WOLFE** (5'10", 230, 10, 260) During the past year, he has wrestled in Louisiana's Mid-South Wrestling and a few matches in WCW ... Often tours Puerto Rico, South Africa, the Middle East, India, and New Zealand ... Wrestled under the name Dale Wolfe in the WWF.

**304 ROCK STEVENS** (6'4", 295, 6, 271) Nicknamed "The Punisher" ... Trained by Brad Rheingans ... Named Motor City Wrestling Rookie of the Year in 1991 ... Has been the MCW champion for four years, making him the longest-reigning titleholder in wrestling today ... Aiming to break the seven-year



Mabel's slowing up his schedule



Iceman is NCW's hot commodity

record of former MCW champ "Man Mountain" Jim Lancaster.

**305 MARK SCHRADER** (5'10", 220, 4, 253) "The Shark" has become very popular on the East Coast ... Has held several regional singles championships ... Used to bring his pool stick to the ring and use it as a weapon ... Some of his toughest opponents have been Axl Rotten, Julio Sanchez, and Corporal Punishment.

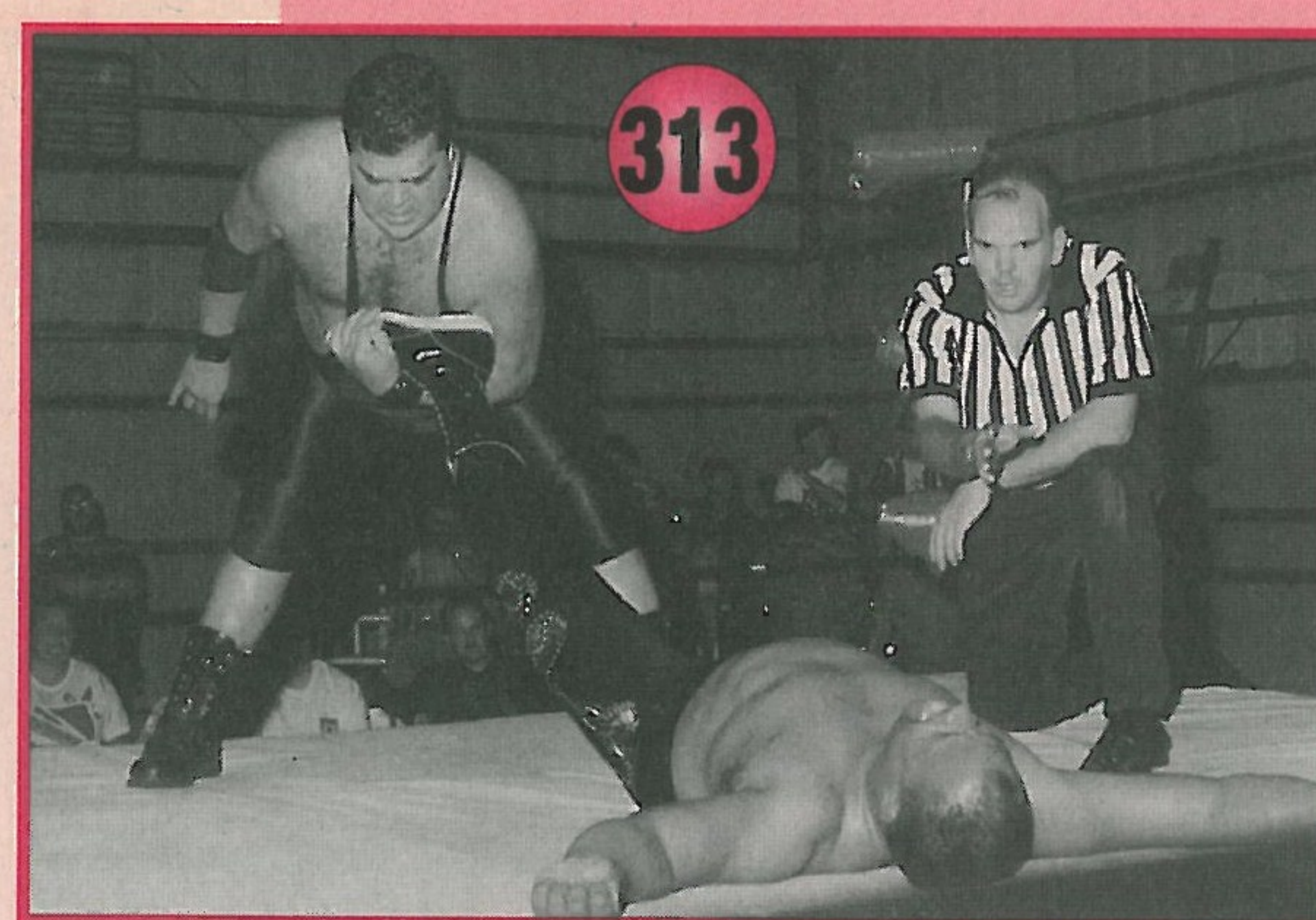
**306 DAVID JERICHO** (5'11", 210, 3, 356) Has wrestled some matches in ECW ... A true fan favorite with polished aerial skills ... Competes primarily in the South ... Biggest strength is his willingness to learn and improve.

**307 ICEMAN** (6', 188, 3, 298) This Northern Championship Wrestling sensation hit it big this year by becoming Quebec champion ... Did well in a series of matches with former partner and trainer Frank Blues and has remained friendly with him ... Also wrestles in other promotions in Quebec and Ontario.

**308 BEAU JAMES** (5'10", 262, 7, NL) Competes primarily in Southern States Wrestling, where he holds the Appalachian title ... Managed by Peaches and Brandi Wine ... Calls himself the "King Of The Southern Indies" because of his numerous wins over Jimmy Valiant, Rick Morton, Tommy Rogers, Bobby Fulton, Demolition Ax, and Tracey Smothers ... James and partner Brian Logan formed a team called The Living Legends ... Broke into wrestling as a referee when he was 15.

**309 RICK JUSTICE** (6'1", 210, 7, 451) Exciting light heavyweight has won several singles titles on the Southern independent circuit ... Very hot-tempered, but the fans like him ... Quite powerful for a man his size ... Teams with Chuck Colt on occasion.

**310 JOHNNY SWINGER** (5'10", 228, 4, 384) This rapidly improving WCW mid-carder has scored some victories over other mid-card talent, including Jim Powers ... Uses swinging neckbreaker as finisher ... Has also competed in Detroit for Border Cities Wrestling ... Much too cocky for his own good.



DeBeers has had his problems in loser-leaves-town matches

**311 THE SULTAN** (6'2", 260, 12, 108) Injured at WrestleMania XIII ... Has returned with Iron Sheik at his side, but without Bob Backlund ... Like his mentor, uses the camel clutch as his finishing hold ... Wears a leather muzzle ... Has good aerial ability for man of his bulk.

**312 OTIS APOLLO** (5'11", 263, 7, 373) "The Arrogant One" is making a big splash with his "Apollo 13" finisher ... Now focusing on singles after BCW tag champ partner Denny Kass was forced to retire ... Former TV champ ... Has wrestled in WWF, WCW, and several Midwest independents.

**313 MAJOR DeBEERS** (5'11", 268, 21, 354) Former Southern Championship Wrestling brass knuckles champ has also wrestled in Southern States Wrestling and other indies ... Wrestled in the WWF, NWA, AWA, and Mid-South under different identities ... Had a tough year, losing loser-leave-town matches to both Jimmy Valiant and Chris Cannon, and then was involved in a serious car accident that shelved him for three months ... Has been reinstated in SCW.

**314 BOBBY CLANCY** (5'5", 214, 8, 324) "Pitbull" claims to hail from Kennel #69 ... Managed by Frank the Fixer ... Dropped former moniker "Irish" after being fed up with kissing up to fans ... Multiple BCW tag and cruiserweight champion ... Former Ontario Wrestling Alliance heavyweight champion ... Wrestles mainly in Michigan and Ontario.

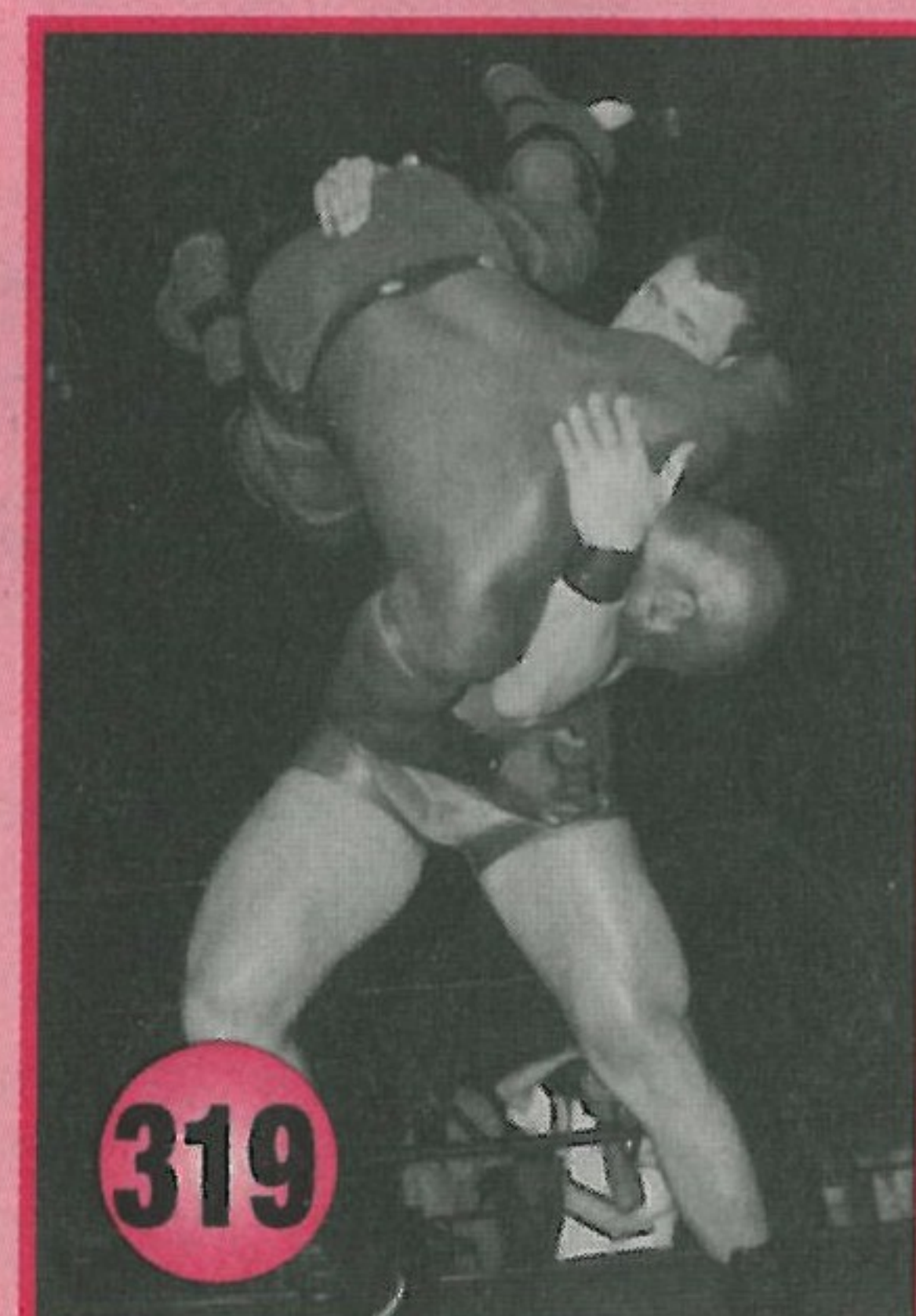
**315 MARC ASH** (6', 205, 8, 248) "Mean" Marc has held North Carolina's International Championship Wrestling title for a remarkable two years ... Defeated "Ironman" Mike Majors in February 1995 to win the belt ... Has made successful defenses against veterans Wahoo McDaniel and Bobby Fulton ... Ivan Koloff has been in Ash's corner on occasion ... Feuding with Disco Inferno.

**316 HACKSAW DUGGAN** (6'3", 280, 15, 147) The popular wrestler hasn't accomplished much in WCW over the past year ... Really hasn't wrestled often in the past year ... Was a rulebreaker early in his career, but became a fan favorite in the UWF ... Was a top star in the WWF for years ... At one time had fair technical skills, is now basically a brawler.

**317 BILLY BRIGGS** (5'11", 210, 3, NL) Defeated his former manager, "Flamboyant" Farren Foxx in several loser-must-wear-a-dress matches ... Currently holds the North American tag team title with Scufflin' Hillbilly ... Both are feuding with former North American All-Star Wrestling champions The Centerfolds, Keith and Kenny Arden.

**318 TIMBER THE LUMBERJACK** (6'2", 310, 4, 318) Many consider Timber the second coming of Hugh Morris with his surprising aerial skills ... Has been feuding with Mike Youngblood throughout the southern independents for three years ... Has his sights set on the NWA 2000 heavyweight title held by Jimmy Cicero ... Is back in the good graces of the NWA fans after a short stint as a rulebreaker.

**319 PRIMO CARNERA III** (6'7", 303, 13, 360) Known as the "Italian Giant" ... Competes in Northeast independent promotions ... Appeared in ECW last year as "Big Guido" of the FBI (Full-Blooded

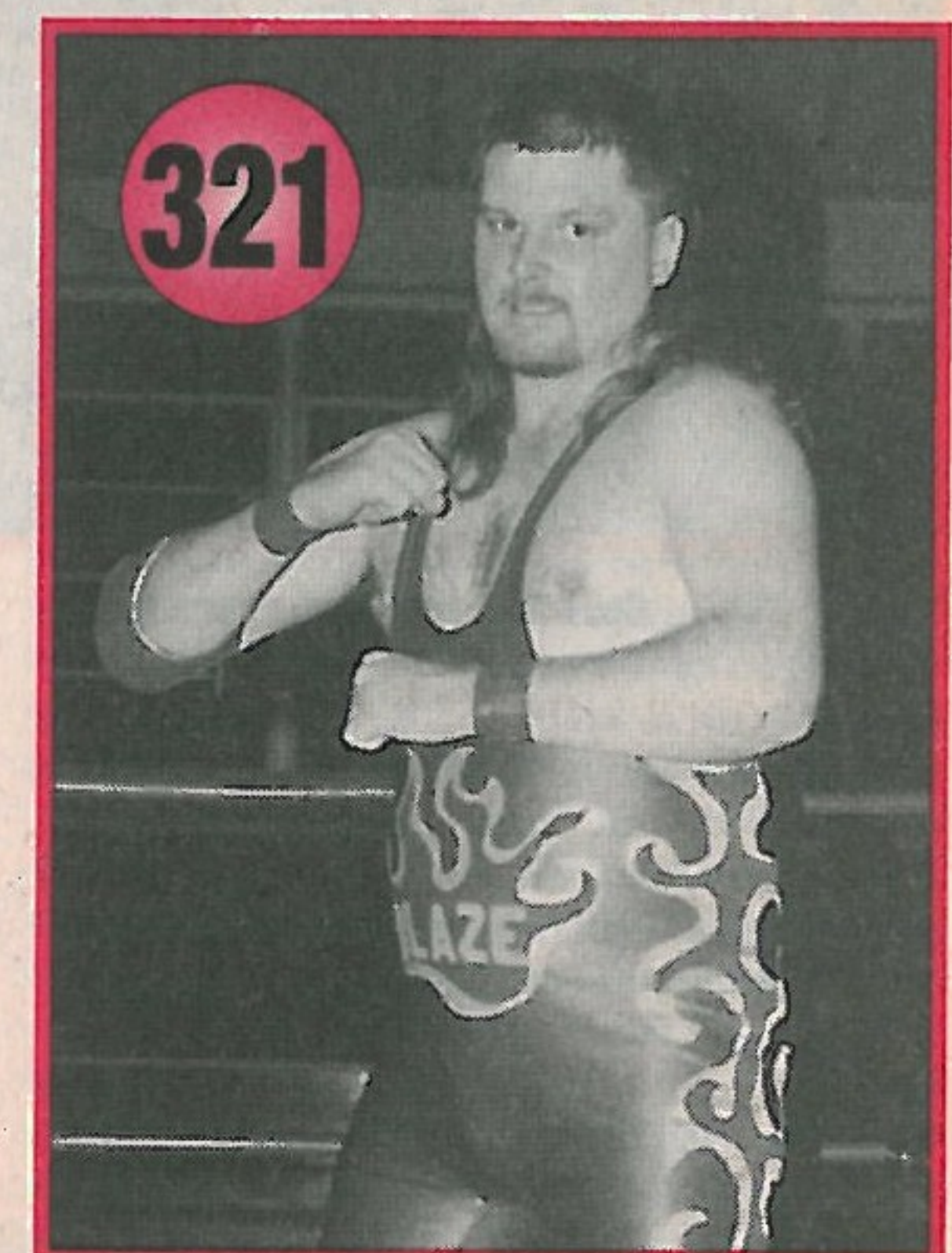


Camera slams Ahmed Johnson

Italians) ... Recently wrestled King Kong Bundy in a match in New York, where the ring actually broke ... Has competed in Northeast Wrestling.

**320 BOBBY BLAZE** (6'1", 222, 9, 261) Current heavyweight champion in Championship Pro Wrestling ... Best-known for his upset victory over Jerry Lawler for the Smoky Mountain title in 1995 ... Since then, he had slumped a bit, but is now regaining some of his former spark ... Feuding with Killer Kyle for the belt.

**321 TIM BLAZE** (6'2", 242, 4, 353) The most hated rulebreaker in North Carolina's Alternative Championship Wrestling ... Assisted by his valet, Brandi Blaze ... Has held the ACW heavyweight title, plus the tag title with Brian Bruise ... Suffered a broken leg during a match against Jimmy Valiant in August 1996 ... Made a remarkable comeback in April ... Blaze and Valiant are still feuding ... Holds victories over Rick Morton, The Barbarian, Wahoo McDaniel, and Jim Garvin.



Blaze is heathy and looking for a fight

**322 TONY DeVITO** (5'11", 247, 11, 369) Competes mostly in Northeast independents, but he has made several appearances in the WWF ... Has feuded with Primo Carnera III in Northeast Wrestling and has asked promoters to sign a rematch as soon as possible ... Considers himself a hardcore wrestler.

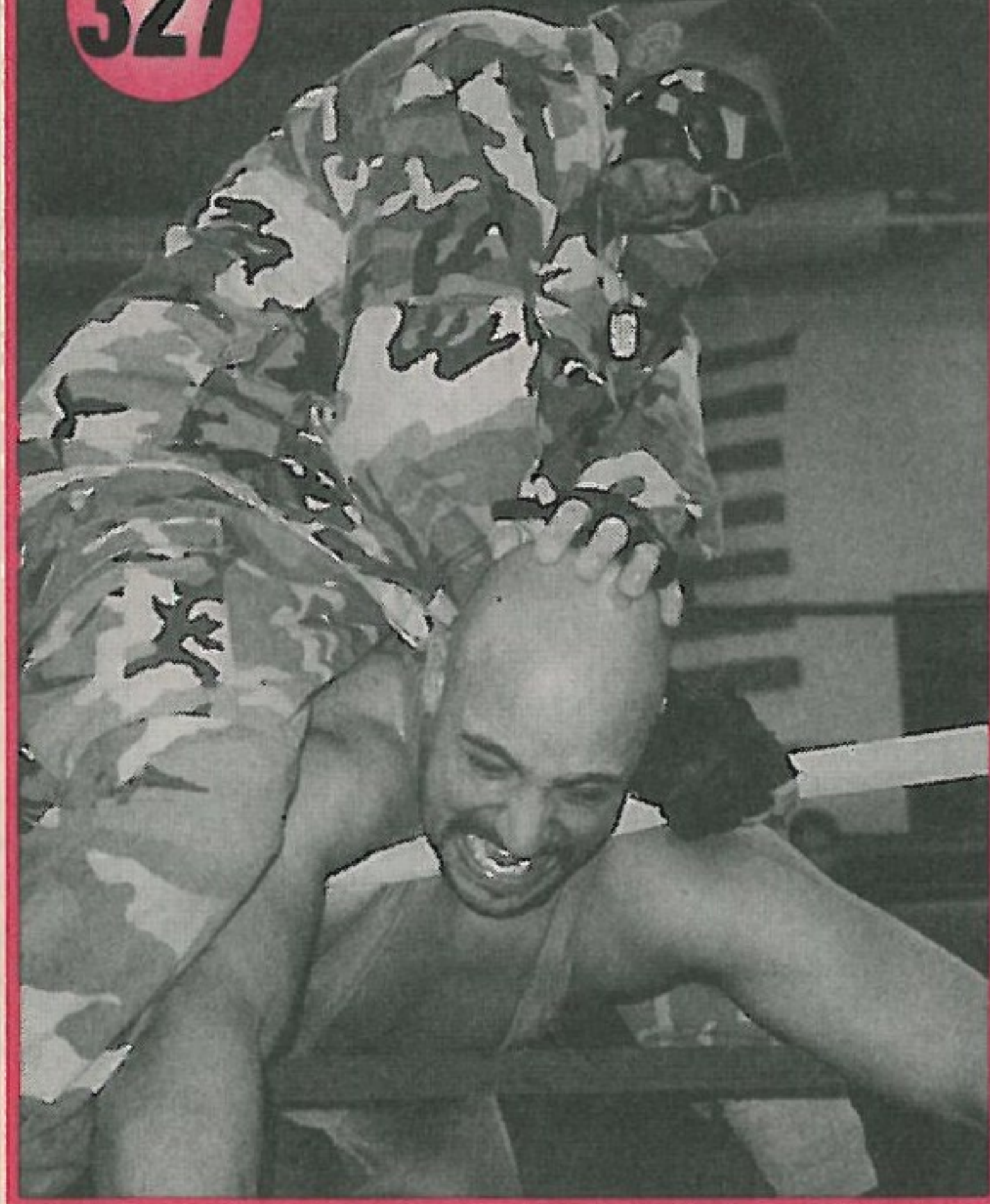
**323 BEN JORDAN** (6', 235, 4, NL) Formed The Wild Boys with Steve Nealy ... Suspended from North American All Star Wrestling for spike-piledriving Chris Michaels, with the help of Nealy ... Recently reinstated, but lost his first match back to North American champion The Colorado Kid ... Has held numerous tag titles with Nealy.

**324 MAJOR HAVOC** (6'2", 275, 3, 450) Has held the AIWF heavyweight, U.S., and tag team titles ... Feuding with Johnny Reb ... Is leader of the Mercenaries ... Finisher is the "Havoc splash" ... Wants a shot at current AIWF champion Rick Deeze.

**325 FLAMING YOUTH** (5'11", 230, 6, 242) This PWF wrestler competes mostly in tag team matches now with new partner Wasted Youth (no relation) ... Always popular with the PWF fans, who stood by after he lost the Eastern States title ... Also held the tag team belts this year with The Masked Maniac ... Has come up short in battles with Madd Maxxine.



327



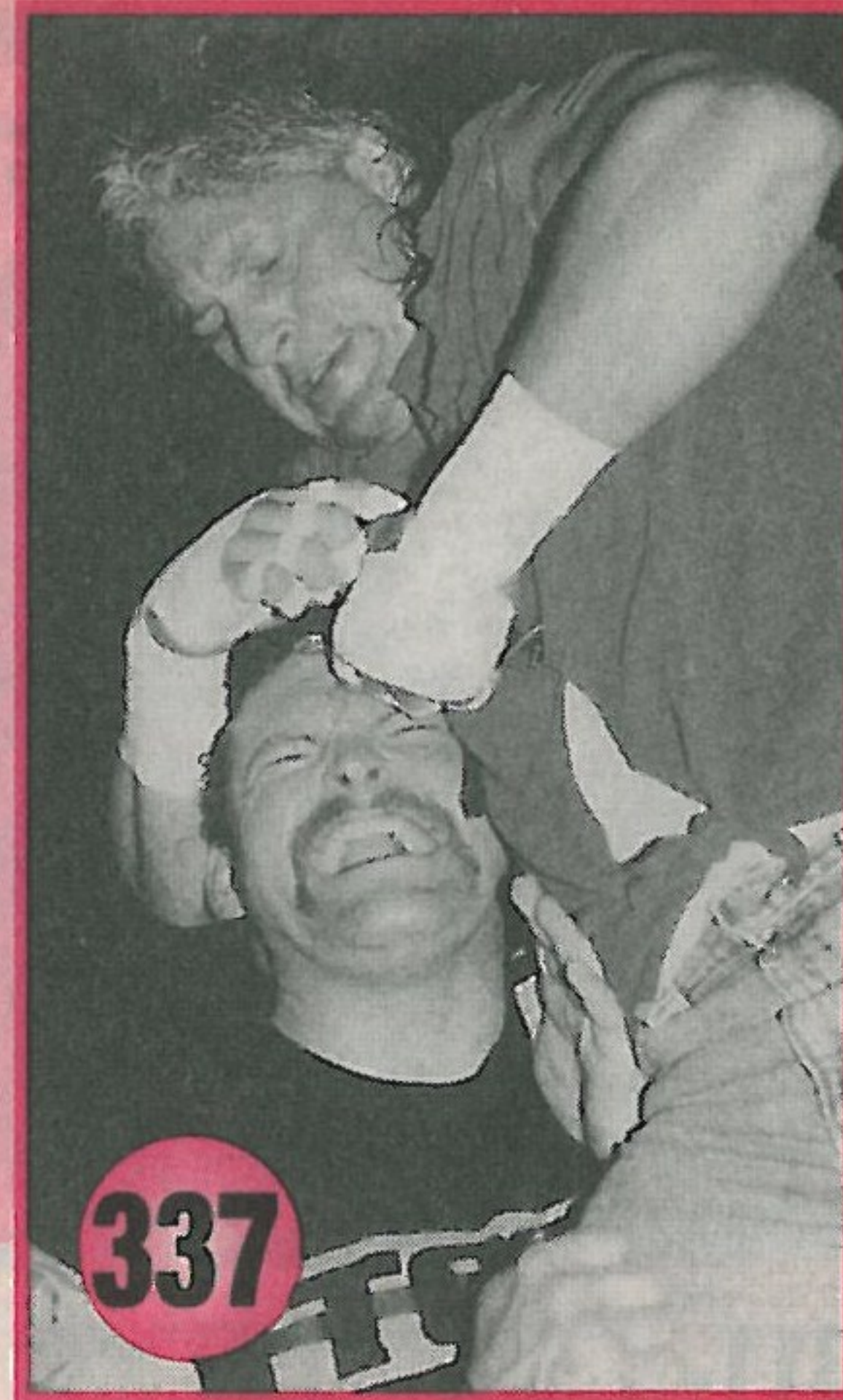
Cpl. Punishment is a major nuisance

bloodiest feud in AIWF history ... Favorite move is the reverse DDT ... Hosts two AIWF talk shows.

**332****JOHNNY PARADISE** (6'1", 237, 7, 370) Former Northern States heavyweight champion ... Trained by Charlie Fulton ... Held several other titles around the Michigan-Ontario region ... Split with long-time tag team partner Scotty Summers in 1996 and they are still feuding.

**333****RICKY ROCKET** (5'9", 205, 7, NL) Reigning Tennessee Mountain light heavyweight champion ... Judging from his reckless style, seems to have no regard for his well-being ... Very fast and creative in the ring ... Is not a fan favorite but still thrills crowds with spectacular moves ... Also knows how to brawl.

**334****CHRIS STEPHENSON** (6', 248, 4, NL) Currently holds SCW heavyweight title ... Signature hold is the Texas cloverleaf ... Has also held the Classic Wrestling Association heavyweight title, the NWA Southern title, and the Mid-Atlantic title ... Memorable feuds have been with Boris Dragoff, K.C. Thunder, Roger Anderson, Jimmy Cicero, and Vladimir Koloff.



Terry Austin rips The Ripper

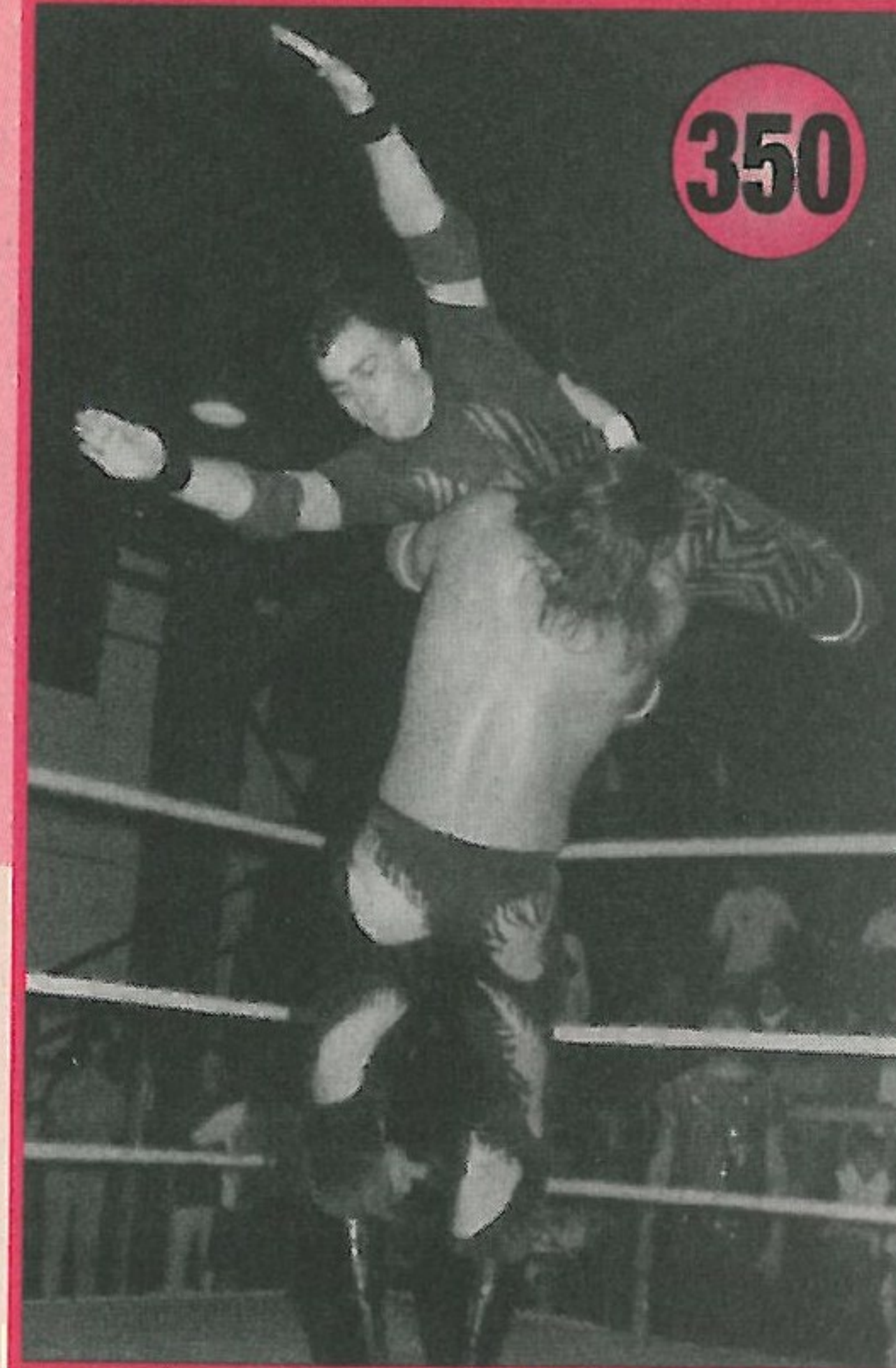
**336****K.C. THUNDER** (6', 270, 8, NL) North Carolina State champion ... Former heavyweight champion in Southern States Wrestling and the Great American Wrestling Federation ... Somersault leg-drop is his finishing move ... Considers "Iceman" Chris Cannon his fiercest rival ever ... Managed by Count Grog.

**337****TERRY AUSTIN** (6', 235, 6, 243) PWF mainstay is the current PWF Eastern States champion ... Former tag team champion with Austin Steele before Steele stopped competing on a regular basis ... Loves to use the sling-shot suplex.

**338****GOLEM THE GIANT** (6'8", 298, 2, 350) Though he lost the Northern Championship Wrestling title in December 1996, was voted Wrestler of the Year by NCW fans ... Managed by Naja Viper ... Feuded with former "Viper Nest" partner Dream Killer all year ... May team with his good friend, The Rebel, who was out most of the year with a shoulder injury.

**339****KEVIN JONES** (6'1", 268, 3, NL) Former New South heavyweight champion is nicknamed "The Thumper" ... Has feuded with both Billy Briggs and Scufflin' Hillbilly in recent months ... Scored several big wins over Hillbilly, which earned him several title matches against North American champion Colorado Kid.

**340****RICKY REGAL** (6'5", 250, 9, NL) One-half of The House of Pain with partner Mikki Free in Southern Championship Wrestling ... The team is locked in a violent feud with The Stray Cats—Brodie Chase and Mike Hart ... Very powerful competitor.



Quackenbush has perfected the art of flying

**341****RICK LINK** (6'3", 362, 16, NL) Wild veteran is the Alternative Championship Wrestling titleholder and is recognized as brass knuckles champ throughout North Carolina ... Greatest claim to fame is participating in the NWA's famous 1983 tour of New Zealand and remaining undefeated ... Former managers include Jimmy Hart, Jim Cornette, Downtown Bruno, and Sheik Abdullah ... Currently feuding with The Dream Warriors.

**342****THE PINK ASSASSIN** (6', 232, 13, 279) Former Century Wrestling Alliance cruiserweight champ ... A member of the Dream Factory in the CWA, which includes Curtis Slammdog, The Hollywood Kid, and Big Mike Lano ... The group is managed by G.Q. Rodeo.

**343****KILLER KANARECK** (6'2", 241, 6, 385) Trained by Larry Zbyszko and Mike Anthony ... Most of his victories—and defeats—have come courtesy of his trademark chain-bash, either causing a disqualification loss or tainted pinfall win ... Wrestles in Michigan-area independents.

**344****ROCKIN' RICO** (6', 220, 5, 277) Currently wrestling in Puerto Rico and Florida ... Former ACW U.S. champion also wrestled in several Mid-Atlantic independents ... New York native is proud of his Puerto Rican heritage.

**345****CHRIS POWERS** (6'1", 255, 17, NL) Nicknamed "The Crippler" ... Extremely powerful ... Disliked by the fans ... Has held several regional titles throughout the South ... Won most of his matches on the Southern circuit in 1996-97.

**346****FRANK PARKER** (6'3", 265, 5, NL) Holds one-half of the Southern Championship Wrestling and NWA National tag team titles with Roger Anderson ... Chokeslam is his power move of choice ... Has feuded as a solo with Beau James and Eclipso

350

and as a team with The Rock 'n' Roll Express ... Managed by Count Grog ... Nicknamed "The Tank" ... First graduate of Jimmy Valiant's wrestling camp.

**347****ARMAGEDDON** (6'1", 255, 10, NL) A tough, powerful brawler ... Turned against tag partner Glen Osborne and ignited a hot feud that included several bloody bullrope and Texas Death matches ... Wears menacing face paint to psych out opponents ... Managed by Dirty Dirk Dunlap.

**348****STEVE CORINO** (6'1", 213, 3, NL) Current NWA light heavyweight champion also holds MEWF tag team straps with Jimmy Cicero ... Has competed in numerous federations on the East Coast, including the WWF ... Is currently feuding with Adam Flash in the MEWF and NWA 2000 ... Trained by the WWF's Salvatore Sincere.

**349****COL. PAYNE** (6', 227, 2, NL) Has become very popular in Pro Wrestling Express during feud with Notorious Norm and Lou Marconi ... Actually turned down a DQ victory over Norm ... Teamed with J.B. Destiny, Stevie Richards, and The Blue Meanie to defeat Marconi. Axl Rotten, Frank Stalletto, and Adam Flash ... Won the PWX tag title with Gator ... Finishing move is the "Dishonorable Discharge," a version of the diamond-cutter.

**350****MIKE QUACKENBUSH** (6'0", 191, 6, 482) "Lightning" Mike has made his mark in PCW and has competed in several other Northeast promotions ... Had classic bouts with Billy Kidman and Ace Darling in ECWA this year ... Pulled off a stunning upset victory over lucha star El Angel de Muerte this past June ... One-half of Fire and Lightning with Inferno Kid ... Japanese style aerialist uses his double-springboard "Quackensmash" to finish off opponents.



Maxxine knows how to rope a man

**351****CHAD HART** (6', 210, 1, NL) Son of veteran manager Gary Hart ... Trained by his father, Action Jackson, and Chris Adams ... Taught the "Oklahoma roll" by veteran Nelson Royal ... Has teamed with Adams against Greg Valentine and Bob Orton in Texas' World Class: The Next Generation ... Feuding with WWF light heavyweight champion Chuck Singer ... Beat Singer, but belt was taken back on a technicality.

**352****MASTER MAYHEM** (6'11", 290, 2, NL) Ultra-popular big man was trained by Tim Horner ... Power wrestler spends a great deal of time in the gym ... Quick and agile for his size ... Masked man who wears flashy leather ... Holds victories over Mongolian Stomper, Bob Armstrong, and Buddy Landell in Tennessee Mountain Wrestling ... Architectural surveyor by trade.

**353****BORIS DRAGOFF** (6'1", 260, 3, 426) Native of Kiev, Russia ... Trained for pro career by Ivan Koloff and currently managed by Count Grog ... Has lost several recent matches because of Grog's untimely interference ... Once held the SCW title ... Russian guillotine favorite finisher ... Has feuded with Chris Stephenson, Ricky Rocket, and J.D. Sullivan ... Good scientific skills.

**354****BRICK BRONSKY** (6'1", 245, 12, 377) Won a one-night single elimination tournament in 1996 to become the first International Pro Wrestling heavyweight champion ... Pinned Dave Powers in the final match ... Previously wrestled in the old Mid-Atlantic and Calgary Stampede territories ... Managed by G.Q. Bronsky ... Has appeared in several action movies.

**355****MADD MAXXINE** (5'9", 190, 3, 367) Is once again the only female to make the "500" ... Not only competes exclusively against men, but is a beltholder ... Has reigned as PWF junior heavyweight champ since August 1996 ... Her toughest opponent—at least psychologically—has been her mother, Mama Maxxine, who just happens to be her toughest opponent at the makeup counter, too.

170

**326****ROGER ANDERSON** (6'2", 254, 7, NL) Holds both the SCW and NWA National tag team titles with Frank Parker ... Has also held the Mid-Atlantic title, the Classic Wrestling Association title, and the NAWA title ... His finishing maneuver is the gourd-buster ... Managed by Count Grog.

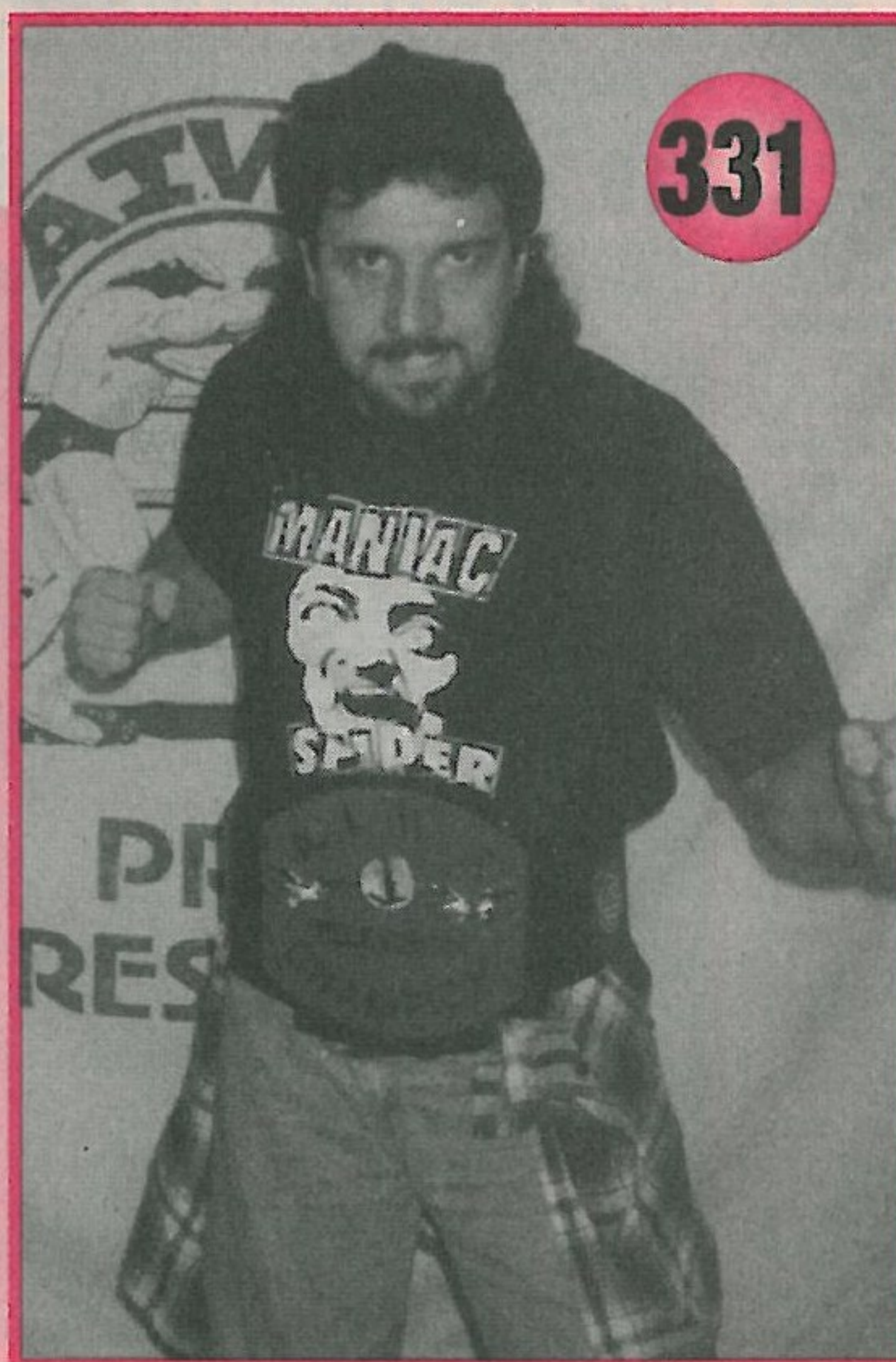
**327****CPL. PUNISHMENT** (6', 240, 3, 374) Rough and tough rulebreaker has competed for ECW and other East Coast independents during the last year ... Formed a successful tag team with Axl Rotten, but is primarily a singles wrestler ... Toughest opponents have included Sabu, Jim Neidhart, Morgus the Maniac, and Axl Rotten.

**328****ROB MCBRIDE** (6'1", 316, 12, 448) Lured longtime enemy Cowboy Chris Starr out of retirement, igniting several brutal matches between the two in North Carolina ... Won the NWA Mid-Atlantic title in March ... Nicknamed "The Bull" ... Introduced his younger brother, Jason, to the mat sport ... The McBride Brothers have formed the RWO (Redneck World Order).

**329****OX HARLEY** (5'11", 255, 5, NL) One of the toughest wrestlers in the IWA ... A brawler who reminds some fans of The Sandman ... Has had an on-again off-again feud with Madman Pondo ... Has teamed with Pondo and wrestled him the next night ... Their matches have been wild brawls that often stipulate the use of barbed wire, baseball bats, or thumb-tacks.

**330****MIKKI FREE** (5'10", 250, 9, NL) Popular star in Southern Championship Wrestling ... One-half of The House of Pain with partner Ricky Regal ... The team has held the SCW tag team title several times.

**331****RICK DEEZEL** (6'2", 212, 10, 328) Has held the AIWF heavyweight, tag team, and TV titles ... Feuding with Brian Danzig in what some call the



Deezel wears a belt and many hats



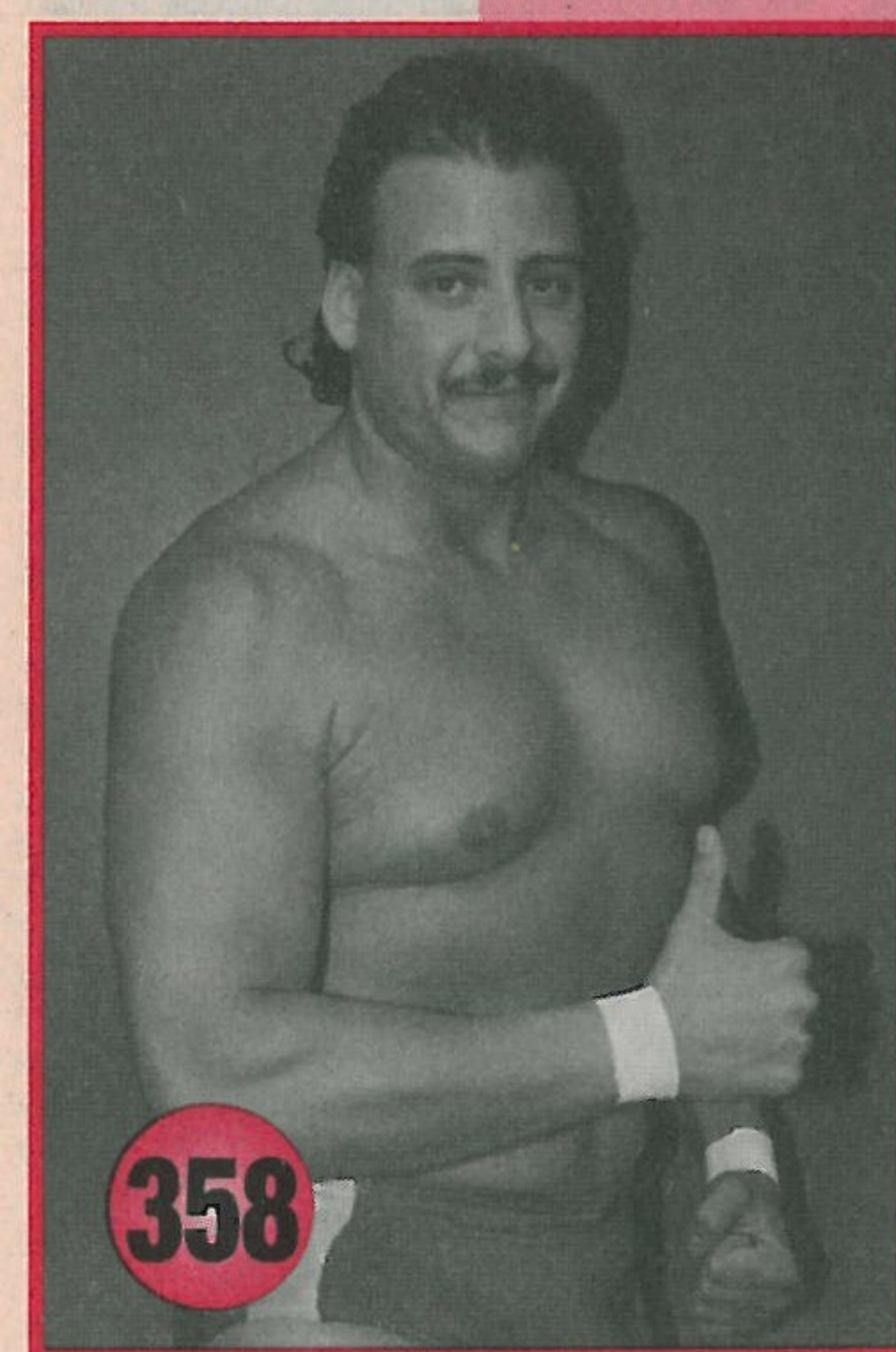
**356 CUEBALL CARMICHAEL** (6'2", 255, 14, 441) Claims to have a \$300 Italian haircut, but that's hard to believe—because he's bald! ... Hence the name Cueball ... A regular in the NWA 2000 promotion ... Has had several matches against his protege, Christian York, since promising to teach York a few more lessons in the ring.

**357 CRUSHER KLINE** (6', 315, 3, 420) The current GWA heavyweight champion ... Defeated D-Lo Brown for the title in Chicas Guardes, Puerto Rico ... Once faced mat legend Koji Kitao in Japan ... A native of Ottawa, Ontario ... Once defeated Al Snow (Leif Cassidy) ... Now embroiled in a bitter feud with Hotseat Productions, namely Alexis Machine, "Beautiful" Brian Fury, and The Producer.

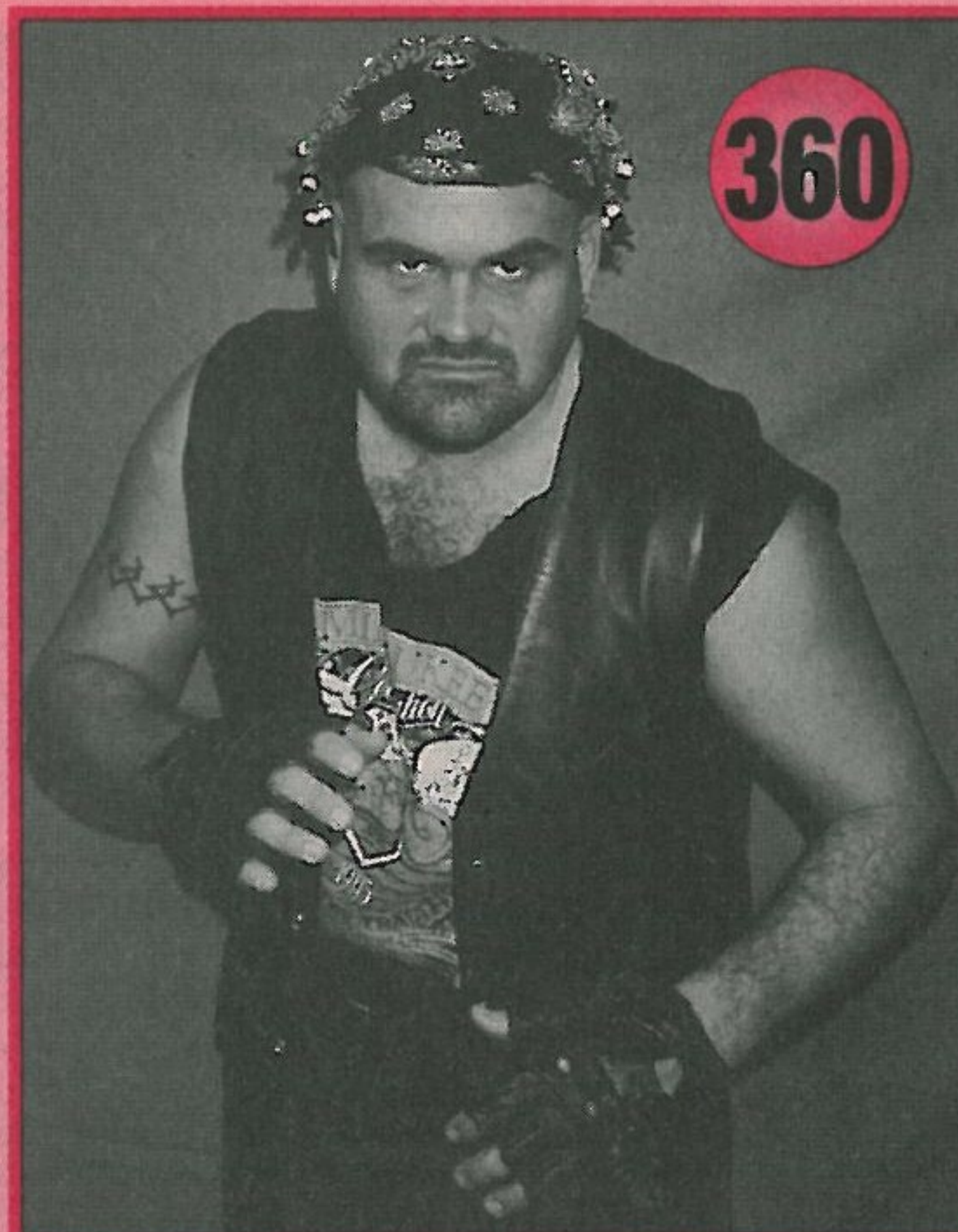
**358 GINO CARUSO** (6'1", 235, 9, 362) Wrestles in several East Coast independents ... A mainstay in East Coast Professional Wrestling ... Native of Naples, Italy ... Flying forearm is his favorite move ... Along with Jimmy Snuka, is involved in a feud with Don Muraco and Metal Maniac in Connecticut ... Has a strong amateur wrestling background ... Wants a shot at ASPW champion Salvatore Bellomo.

**359 RAVISHING RONNY** (5'10", 230, 7, NL) Career has been on the upswing since he took on Barry Casino as his manager ... Feuding with Boogie Woogie Brown ... Participated in the ECWA Super 8 tourney and is currently the number-one contender to that federation's heavyweight title ... Uses moonsault as his finisher ... Aggressive style fits his new attitude ... Also a regular in PCW.

**360 JEFF ANDERSON** (6'1", 240, 15, NL) Very emotional competitor whose loud mouth sometimes gets him in trouble ... Despised in numerous Southern independents ... Shows off his great athletic ability by stringing together moves quickly.



Caruso's one of Italy's finest



Anderson's talented, but not well-liked

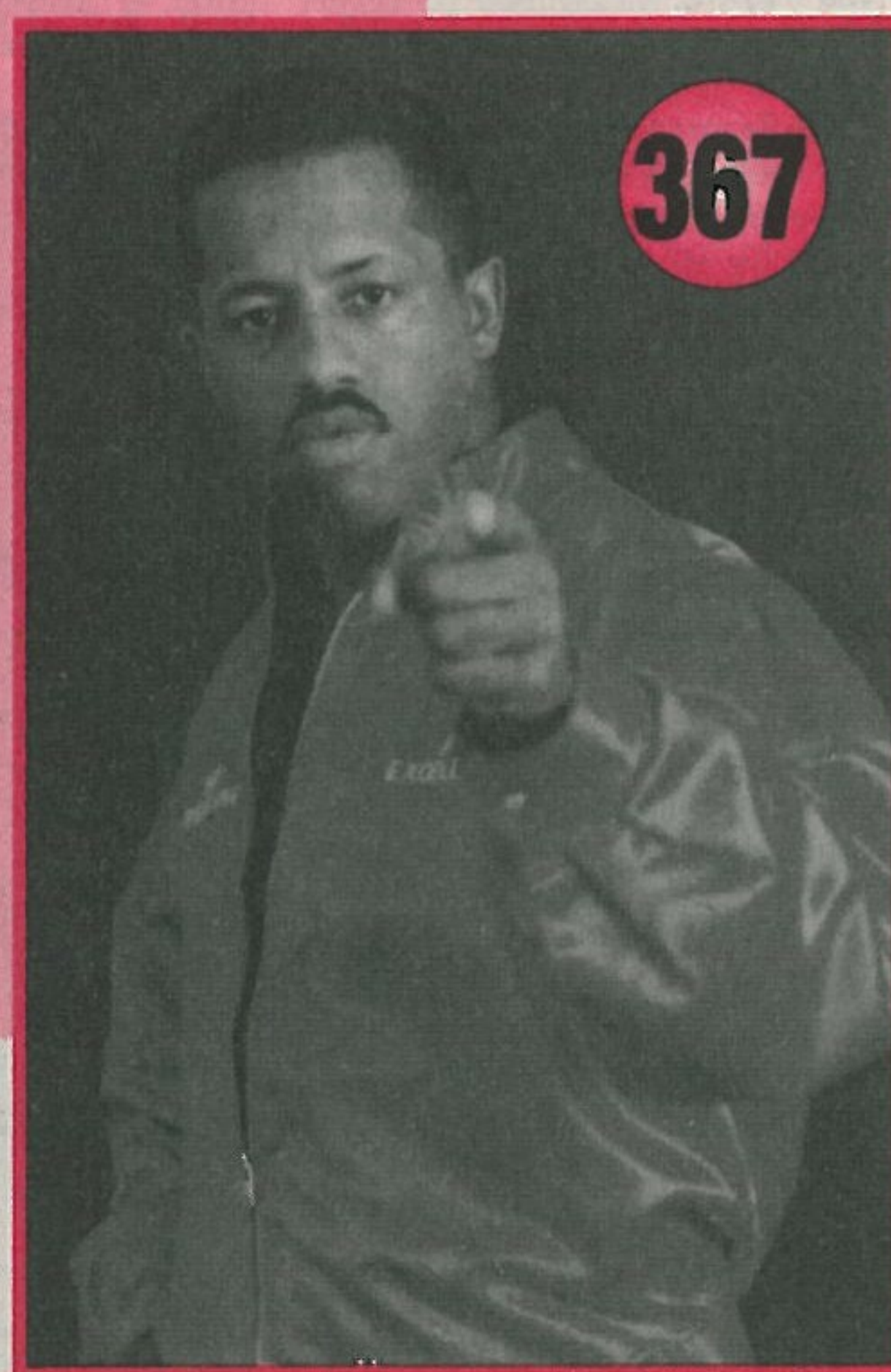
**361 BOOGIE WOOGIE BROWN** (6'1", 325, 7, 403) Currently wrestles in PCW and ECWA, where he is managed by Capt. Lou Albano ... Kids love him ... Favorite moves are the big splash and "thunder" elbow ... Often uses his size to manhandle opposition, but is fairly agile, too ... Feuding with Ravishing Ronny in the ECWA ... Likes nothing better than celebrating with fans after his victories.

**362 STEVE NEALY** (6', 235, 4, NL) Teams with Ben Jordan in North American All-Star Wrestling ... His wrestling style has been compared to that of a young Ray "The Crippler" Stevens ... Nealy and Jordan nearly crippled Chris Michaels earlier this year when they piledrived him outside the ring on the floor.

**363 RICK MARTEL** (6', 236, 25, 139) Occasionally wrestles in the northern United States and in his native Canada ... Spends most of his time training up-and-coming wrestlers ... Former AWA World champ and WWF World tag team champion.

**364 BUSHWHACKER LUKE** (5'10", 235, 31, 258) Very popular with the kids, Luke teams with cousin Butch to form The Bushwhackers ... Rarely competes in singles competition ... Has teamed mainly with Butch, but for a brief time, he was paired with Shepherd Jonathan Boyd.

**365 BRIMSTONE SHOCKER** (5'11", 245, 9, 457) Holds the Championship Wrestling Federation Southern States title ... Favorite hold is the "shocker lock" ... A former Hardcore Wrestling Alliance champ ... Now wrestling in the Carolinas, Shocker has a fan following he calls "The Damned" ... Still (literally) shocks opponents with an electrical cattle prod ... Along with Wild Child, has formed a team called The Screaming Demons ... Sometimes does commentary for CWF TV



Mr. Excellent loves a challenge

programs ... Allied with CWF champion Venom and feuding with Sweet Dreams.

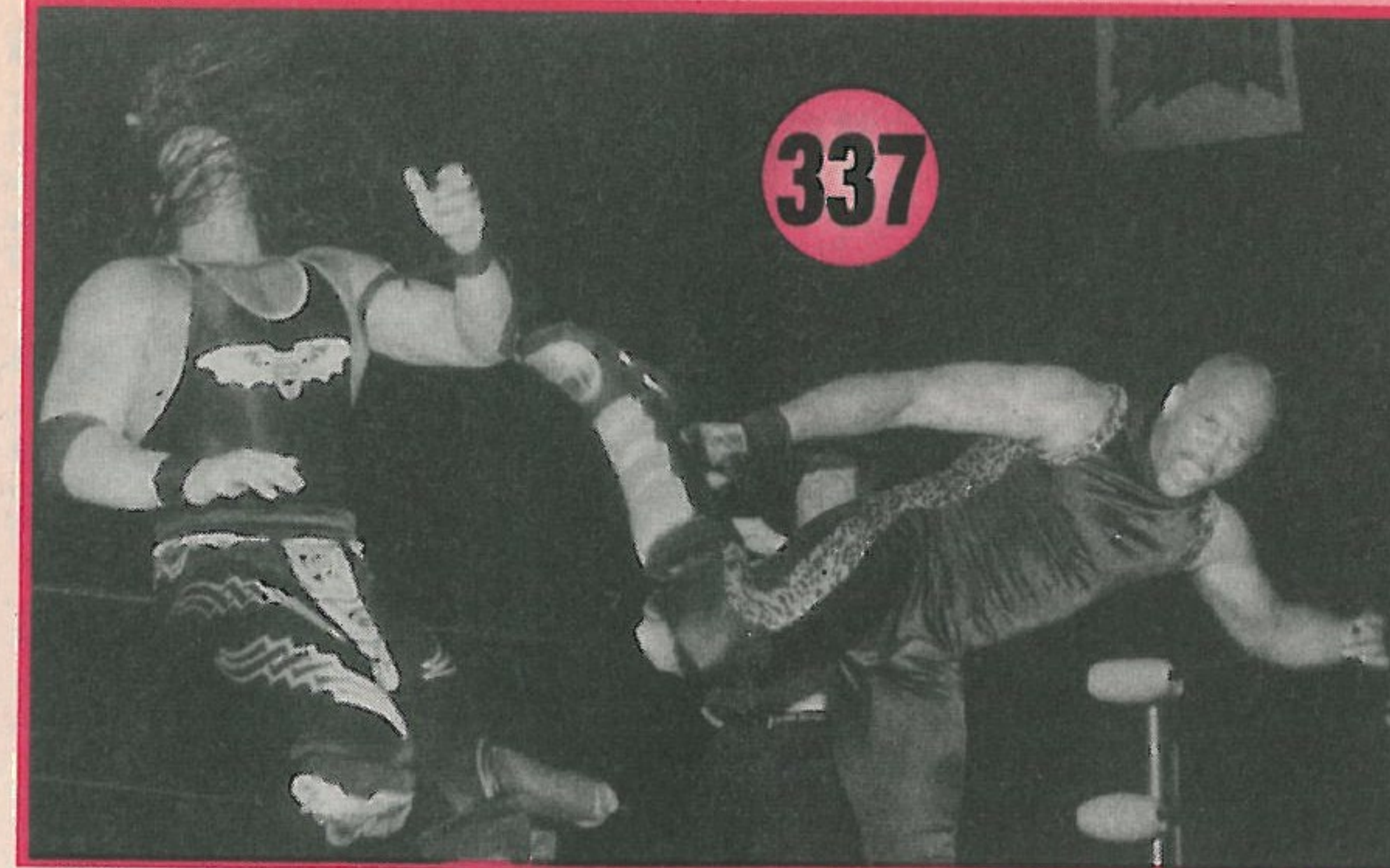
**366 BRUCE HART** (6', 228, 25, NL) Had the greatest success of his career in Stampede Wrestling in Calgary, where he is still beloved ... Teamed with three of his brothers at the 1993 Survivor Series ... Currently the leader of UCW's Hart Mafia ... Touts himself as "The Hartbreaker."

**367 MR. EXCELLENT** (6'1", 212, 2, 375) Competes in New Dimension Wrestling and throughout the Mid-Atlantic ... Former NDW U.S. champ ... His finishing move is the "power-plex" ... Often wrestles much larger opponents.

**368 YAR** (5'11", 230, 2, 327) Best known as Wolf's partner in The Lost Boys ... Former NWA U.S. tag team champion with Wolf ... Provided the power while Wolf provided many of the aerial moves ... Unfortunately, the tag team recently broke up ... Yar is now trying to find a replacement for Wolf ... Regularly competes in East Coast independents.

**369 BUSHWHACKER BUTCH** (5'8", 238, 32, 244) He and cousin Luke Williams are The Bushwhackers ... Hasn't been seen in the WWF in months ... Not the competitor he once was, but he still knows how to entertain fans ... At one time, he and Luke were called The Kiwi Shepherders and were one of the most feared tag teams in the South ... Loves to lick fans' faces on his way to the ring.

**370 BULL PAIN** (6'2", 277, 5, NL) Presently the number-one contender to Ian Rotten's IWA heavyweight title ... Turned his back on other IWA wrestlers by aligning himself with the NWA in an interederation feud ... Has wrestled Rotten in a barbed-wire baseball bat match, a Taipei death match, and many others ... Previously wrestled in ECW, where he also feuded with Rotten.



Ernest Miller's feet are taking him places

**371 BRIAN ANTHONY** (6', 229, 6, NL) "Bad Boy" wrestles mostly in Mid-Atlantic independents ... Has an excellent amateur background but can also brawl ... Once one of the most hated wrestlers in Pro Wrestling Xpress, he became very popular after winning the vacant heavyweight title in a July 1996 battle royal ... Is the longest-reigning champ in history ... Female fans love his physique ... Wrestled Sabu in only his third pro match ... Trained by Dominic DeNucci.

**372 DEREK DOMINO** (6', 238, 5, NL) One-half of The Misfits with partner Harley Lewis ... They won the NWA U.S. tag team title by defeating Ray Odyssey and Inferno Kid ... Relies on power and brawling ... Also an accomplished singles wrestler who has challenged NWA heavyweight champion Dan Severn on several occasions ... Opponents think he's crazy, and they're probably not far off in their assessment.

**373 ERNEST MILLER** (6'2", 235, 1, NL) Made his first WCW appearance at Slamboree, when he came out of the crowd to save Glacier from a triple-team attack by Mortis, Wrath, and James Vandenberg ... Has been teaming with Glacier ever since ... Has won numerous karate and bodybuilding titles ... Met Eric Bischoff in 1991 while he was teaching karate in Atlanta ... Started working out at WCW's Power Plant in 1996, where he learned to mix karate with wrestling skills ... Ernie Ladd and Bob Armstrong were this Georgia native's idols when he was a kid.

**374 JOHNNY HANDSOME** (5'8", 221, 6, 388) Calls himself "Mr. Infatuation" ... Defeated Super Nova last year in Poughkeepsie, New York to regain the Northeast Wrestling light heavyweight title ... Former high school wrestling champion.

**375 D.Z. GILLESPIE** (6', 402, 3, 398) This big bad chef is actually a good cook ... Currently feuding with Boogie Woogie Brown in PCW ... Is never without his trusty cookie sheet, which he uses to win a lot of his matches ... Purposely lost a banana-eating contest to a pot-bellied pig so PCW promoter Blaine DeSantis would be forced to kiss the pig.

**376 WOLF** (6', 210, 2, 334) Formerly one-half of The Lost Boys tag team with partner Yar, but the two recently had a falling-out ... Recently had an argument with new partner Twiggy Ramirez after losing a tag team match, which resulted in the two meeting one-on-one ... Thrills fans with high-risk moves ... Has had

most of his success in tag teams, but is now concentrating his efforts on singles matches ... Wrestles on East Coast independents and in the IWA.

**377 STEVE FLYNN** (5'11", 230, 6, NL) On his third reign as Southern States Wrestling heavyweight champion ... "Sensational" Steve won a one-night, 16-man tournament to capture the title ... Feuding with Jimmy Valiant ... Has also held the Southeastern heavyweight and SSW tag title.

**378 METAL MANIAC** (6'2", 310, 6, 366) Beefy brawler has packed on some additional pounds in the last year, and his stamina has suffered ... Lost his 100th straight match to Jimmy Snuka this year ... Centers his offense around power moves ... Also likes to wear his opponents down with chinlocks.

**379 J.B. DESTINY** (5'11", 192, 8, NL) Formed The Dead Ringers with his twin brother at the beginning of his career ... Has been a mainstay with Pro Wrestling Xpress since its inception in September 1995 ... Received a walk-on part in the made-for-cable movie *The Assassin File* ... He and partner "Golden Boy"



Gillespie has an unusual recipe for success

Dennis Gregory have formed The Usual Suspects and are the PWX tag champs ... Defeated Stevie Richards and The Blue Meanie for the belts in December 1996.

**380 PAUL LAURIA** (5'4", 180, 5, NL) Hated by ECW fans during his brief feud with Mikey Whipwreck, the "Giant Killer" is now adored by UCW fans ... The current UCW light heavyweight champion ... Has gained much respect from his peers for overcoming his lack of size.

**381 THE WAR MACHINE** (6', 300, 9, NL) Formerly known as "Billion-Dollar Baby" G.Q. Stratus ... Lost the pretty boy looks and began painting his face ... Now wrestles like a wildman ... Has wrestled throughout the U.S., Canada, and South Africa ... Has held several regional titles ... Feuding with Johnny Thunder in Southern States Wrestling.

**382 CHRIS MICHAELS** (5'9", 210, 4, NL) Popular high-flyer who competes in Tennessee independents ... Had a brief stint earlier this year in North American All-Star Wrestling ... Suffered severe neck and back injuries when The Wild Boys piledrived him on the floor ... Has competed in both Smoky Mountain and the USWA.



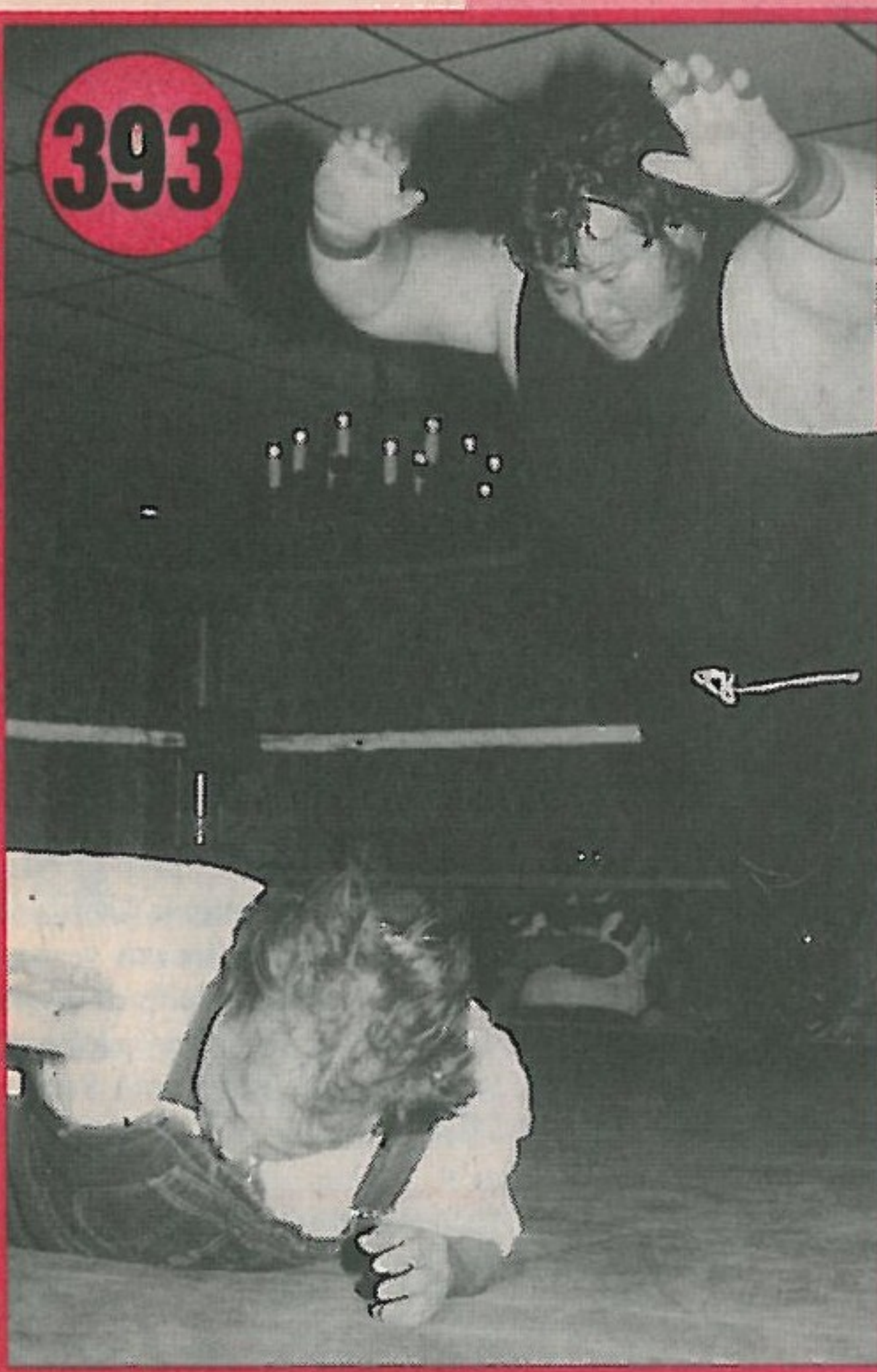
Is J.B. destined for stardom?

**383 PROFESSOR MAXWELL** (6', 241, 9, 416) Unorthodox wrestler is managed by The Gypsy ... Trained by the original Sheik ... Has wrestled in Japan, but now competes mostly in the States ... Former BCW TV and tag champ ... Once known as Mad Max Anthony.

**384 THOMAS RODMAN** (5'11", 180, 2, 446) Martial arts enthusiast was trained by Glen Osbourne ... Has wrestled in the NWA and other Northeastern independents ... Made his ECW debut in April as a member of the Blue World Order nicknamed "Inch Worm" ... Smaller than most of his opponents, so he relies a lot on speed.

**385 BRIAN DANZIG** (6', 217, 4, 400) Current AIWF U.S. champion and two-time former AIWF light heavyweight champion ... Has also had some success in tag team competition, winning the AIWF tag team title twice ... Also competes in independents in Virginia and the Carolinas ... Has been feuding with Bad Brad since he turned down Brad's offer to join the Family of Darkness.





Mark Mest pounces on brother Troy

Carries baseball bat to ring to remind everyone that he is a real "heavy hitter" ... Says many would be shocked to learn his identity if he ever removed his mask.

**391 COUNTRY BOY CHRIS** (6'2", 425, 2, NL) Along with Gator, he has formed The Giant Hillbillies ... The duo won the Pro Wrestling Xpress tag team title from Paul Atlas and The Black Cat in September 1996 ... Lost the belts to Stevie Richards and The Blue Meanie in December ... In that match, Chris was pinned after Dudley Dudley hit him with a speed limit sign and Richards superkicked him ... Trained by Johnny Valiant.

**392 SEBASTIAN KANE** (6'5", 320, 7, 463) A mainstay in several North Carolina independents ... Briefly held the International Championship Wrestling tag title with D.C. Queen ... Recently had a bloody feud with Terry Flynn.

**393 MARK MEST** (6', 384, 6, 357) Former PCW heavyweight champion ... Once held the PCW tag title with Ace Darling ... Has reconciled with brother Troy after a long feud ... The Mests, "Outlaw" Maxx Crimson, and "Lumberjack" Jacques Bonet are part of a group called The Intimidators ... Mark is the group's enforcer ... Recently entered the EWA ... Favors the sidewalk slam as his finishing move.

**394 TERIK THE GREAT** (5'7", 175, 1, NL) This rulebreaker is a regular in the IWA ... Has traded the IWA light heavyweight title back and forth with American Kickboxer ... In fact, he had so many matches against Kickboxer that IWA promoters insisted that both they refrain from wrestling each other for a period of 60 days.

**395 MR. OOH LA LA** (5'10", 230, 7, NL) This "exotic Frenchman" is a PCW and ECWA regular ... Former PCW tag champ with Chef D.Z. Gillespie



Ooh La La annoys with his striptease

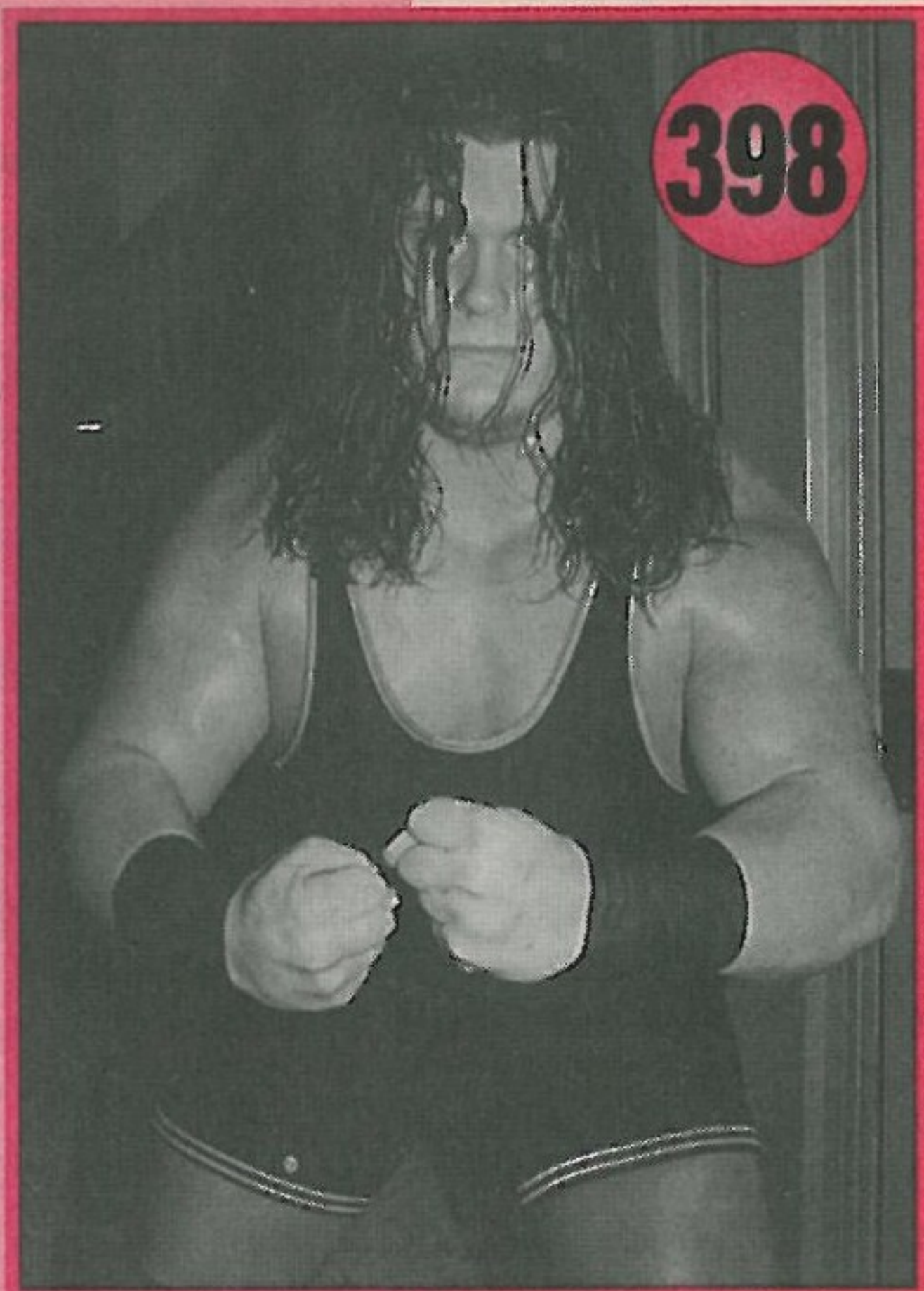
**386 JOHN RAMBO** (6'2", 260, 9, NL) National Wrestling League heavyweight champion is popular in the Mid-Atlantic region ... Veteran of the Pacific Northwest wrestling scene has returned home to the East Coast ... Successfully defended his NWL title against Disco Inferno and Mankind, among others ... Looks like Sylvester Stallone.

**387 911** (6'7", 310, 4, 299) Also known as Big Al ... Has competed in both WCW and Int'l Pro Wrestling during the last year ... Defeated IPW heavyweight champion Brick Bronsky in a non-sanctioned first-blood match several months ago ... Match was signed after Bronsky nailed 911 with a chair and drew blood for the first time in 911's career.

**388 AMERICAN KICKBOXER** (5'8", 171, 1, NL) A mainstay in the IWA ... Once very popular with the fans in Louisville, but recently had a change of attitude ... Defeated Terik the Great and Tyren in a triangle match to regain the light heavyweight belt ... Once dove off a balcony and into the ring onto Terik, who reversed Kickboxer's momentum and scored the pin.

**389 CHIP STETSON** (5'9", 170, 2, NL) New Breed Wrestling cruiserweight possesses solid aerial and technical skills ... Has a decent fan following in New York and Pennsylvania ... An impressive "Frankensteiner" is his finishing maneuver ... Engaged in feuds with Thorn and J.T. Lightning ... Defeated Thorn for the vacant Eastern Shores cruiserweight title ... As Stetson showered, though, his newly won belt was cut up into strips and flushed down the toilet by Thorn.

**390 VIPER** (5'10", 240, 14, NL) PCW and ECWA mainstay ... Former ECWA heavyweight and tag champ with Armageddon ... Very outspoken competitor who had a long feud with Glen Osbourne over the ECWA title ... Uses the "crash test" as his finishing maneuver ...



Richards is built like a rhino

... They were collectively known as The French Connection ... Knows how to agitate opponents and fans with his striptease routine ... Lost to George "The Animal" Steele shortly after Steele came out of retirement this summer ... Managed by Barry Casino.

**396 BRIAN LOGAN** (6'1", 231, 5, NL) Recently turned rulebreaker and formed The Living Legends with "Handsome" Beau James ... Competes in Southern States Wrestling ... Nicknamed "The Player" ... Trained by Tim Horner ... Has wrestled for Smoky Mountain and WCW ... Now wrestles for indies throughout the Southeast ... Aerialist with numerous high-impact moves ... Wins most matches with the superkick.

**397 BRUISER BENNETT** (6', 248, 8, 419) Sidelined by an injuries in October 1996 and became commissioner of Texas All-Star Wrestling ... Re-entered the ring in June and became member of Generation X-Treme ... Injuries seem to have fully healed ... Racking up victory after victory ... Remains TASW commissioner, but makes many pro-rulebreaker rulings.

**398 RHINO RICHARDS** (6'1", 330, 3, NL) Dearborn, Michigan, native competes in Michigan independents ... Has had tough matches with Rick Matrix and Death Wolf ... Calls his finisher the "Rhino drop" ... Former holder of the Insane Championship Wrestling brass knuckles title ... Often tours Europe with the CWA.

**399 DEVLIN BLANCHARD** (6', 217, 3, NL) Holds the Maximum Championship Wrestling tag team championship with Doc Savage ... Once held the title with Chuck Singer ... Nicknamed "The Prince Of Darkness" ... Finishing move is the Devlin skull-crusher (a modified DDT) ... Managed by "Atomic Playboy" Steve Hartley ... Along with Savage, has been involved in a year-long feud with Generation X.

**400 COL. JIHAD HUSSEIN** (6'1", 245, 4, NL) This darkhorse won the King of PCW tournament, defeating Julio Sanchez ... Member of the rule-breaking group known as "Camp Casino," under the advisement of Barry Casino ... Top contender for Cheetah Master's PCW heavyweight belt.

**401 C.W. ANDERSON** (6', 243, 3, NL) Held the NWA tag team title with brother Pat during 1996 ... Now on his own and managed by Vinnie Gambini, Anderson is a top contender for both the SCW and NWA National heavyweight titles ... Had a memorable streetfight in Louisburg, North Carolina, with Steve Corino that ended up in the middle of an intersection.

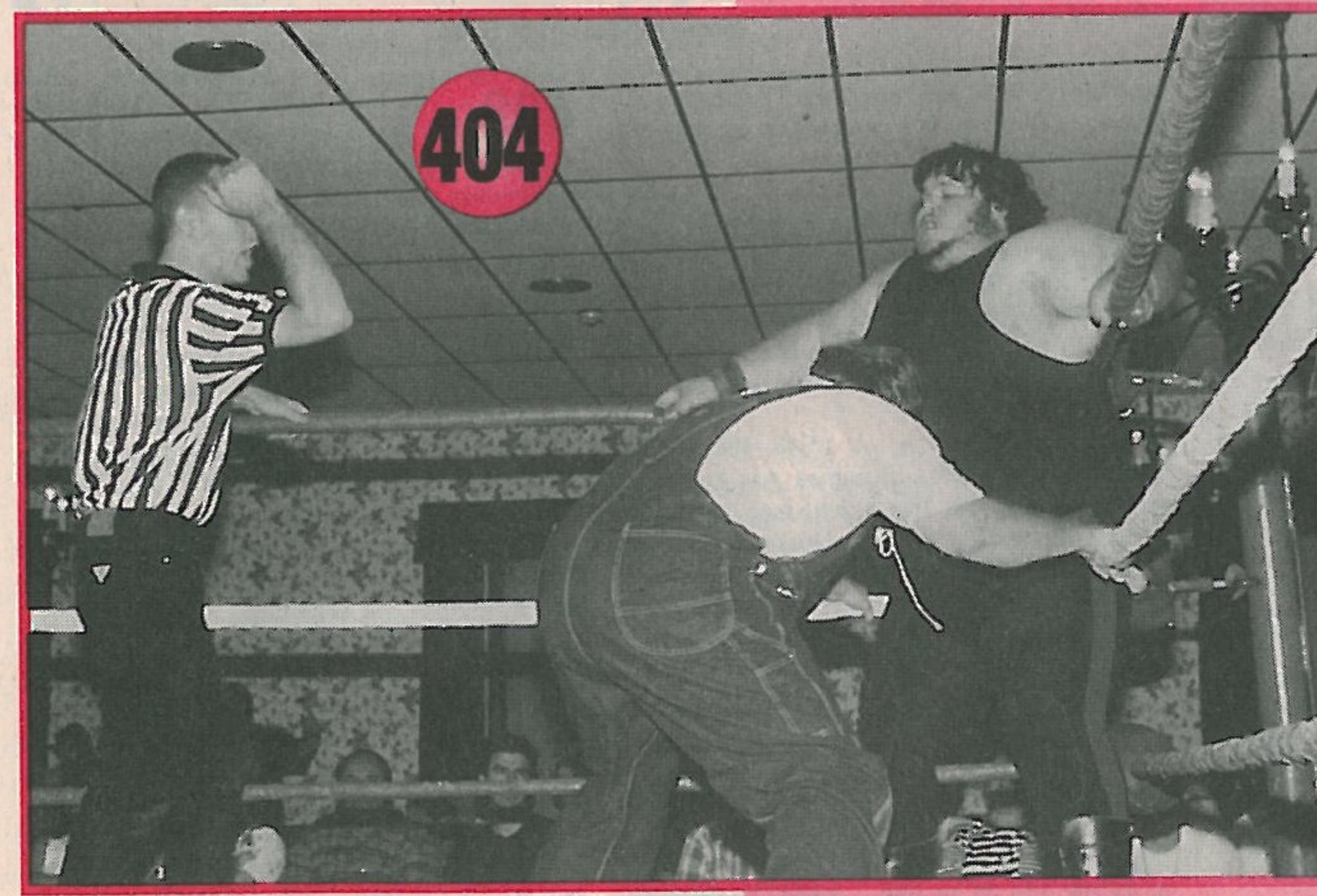
**402 ALEXIS MACHINE** (6', 255, 3, NL) Has wreaked havoc all over the Global Wrestling Alliance and CWF since becoming the charter member of Hotseat Productions, and taking on The Producer as his manager ... Feuded with the likes of GWA champion Crusher Kline, but has fallen short of capturing the title.

**403 HUMONGOUS** (6'4", 425, 6, NL) Current Texas All-Star Wrestling heavyweight champion ... Recently battled Abdullah the Butcher in a bloody encounter ... Managed by "Sports Agent" Rusty Maguire ... Member of Generation X-Treme ... Teams with G.Q. Knight ... Wrestles for various Southwest promotions ... Frequently punishes opponents with steel chairs.

**404 TROY MEST** (5'10", 245, 6, 376) Former PCW champion ... Nicknamed "The Instigator" because he enjoys making trouble and angering his opponents ... Has reunited with brother Mark after ugly feud ... The Mest Brothers belong to the Intimidators, which includes "Outlaw" Maxx Crimson and "Lumberjack" Jacques Bonet ... Bulldog is his finisher.

**405 D.C. QUEEN** (6'1", 320, 4, NL) Nicknamed "Death Metal" ... Is CWF and CCWA tag team champion with Marc Ash ... Is also International Championship Wrestling tag champ with Sebastian Kane ... Former National Wrestling Council champ ... In an intense feud with current NWC champ Aggressor Rage ... Hates wrestlers with fake names and stupid gimmicks.

**406 AGGRESSOR RAGE** (5'10", 220, 1, NL) Is the National Wrestling Council champion ... Wrestles primarily in North Carolina ... Held the PWA and NWC tag titles with partner Fury ... Rage and Fury are collectively known as The Army of Aggression ... A powerful wrestler with savage intensity ... Feuding with D.C. Queen.



Troy Mest no longer fights brother Mark

**407 PAT FRIDAY** (5'10", 215, 6, NL) Spent most of the year in Alternative Championship Wrestling, where he feuded with Mr. Excellent over the TV title ... Feuding with Mean Marc Ash ... Recently entered North Carolina's International Championship Wrestling ... This technically sound competitor's favorite finisher is the hurricarana from the top rope.

**408 DON BASHER** (6', 302, 12, NL) Has reigned as Indiana Wrestling Federation champion for almost two years ... A top star in World Championship Wrestling Outlaws ... Also wrestles in Kentucky, Tennessee, Illinois, Michigan, Ohio, and Alabama ... Has wrestled such stars as Cactus Jack, Rick Morton, Tracy Smothers, Jimmy Valiant, Sabu, and Greg Valentine.

**409 TYREN** (5'10", 189, 1, NL) This rookie has held the IWA light heavyweight title twice already ... Trained by Les Thatcher ... Uses many high-flying moves and is not afraid to take risks inside the ring ... Recently lost his IWA light heavyweight title to American Kickboxer during a triangle match also involving Terrik the Great ... Not very well-liked by fans.

**410 DON CARSON** (6', 300, 14, 379) "Dangerous" Don has held the AIWF heavyweight, U.S., and tag team titles in Georgia and Tennessee promotions ... Along with Robert Roma and "Smiling" Diamond Dave is a member of the Tennessee Violence Authority ... Feuding with AIWF champion Rick Deeze and The Ghost Riders ... Finisher is the spinning crucifix.

**411 MAVERICK CHRIS** (6', 211, 2, NL) Former New Dimension Wrestling tag team champion ... Managed by Holly Michaels ... Best-known for being part of The Mighty Mavericks with partner Buck ... Has



Don Basher is still IWF champ

injured opponents with his branding iron ... Wrestles in the Mid-Atlantic.

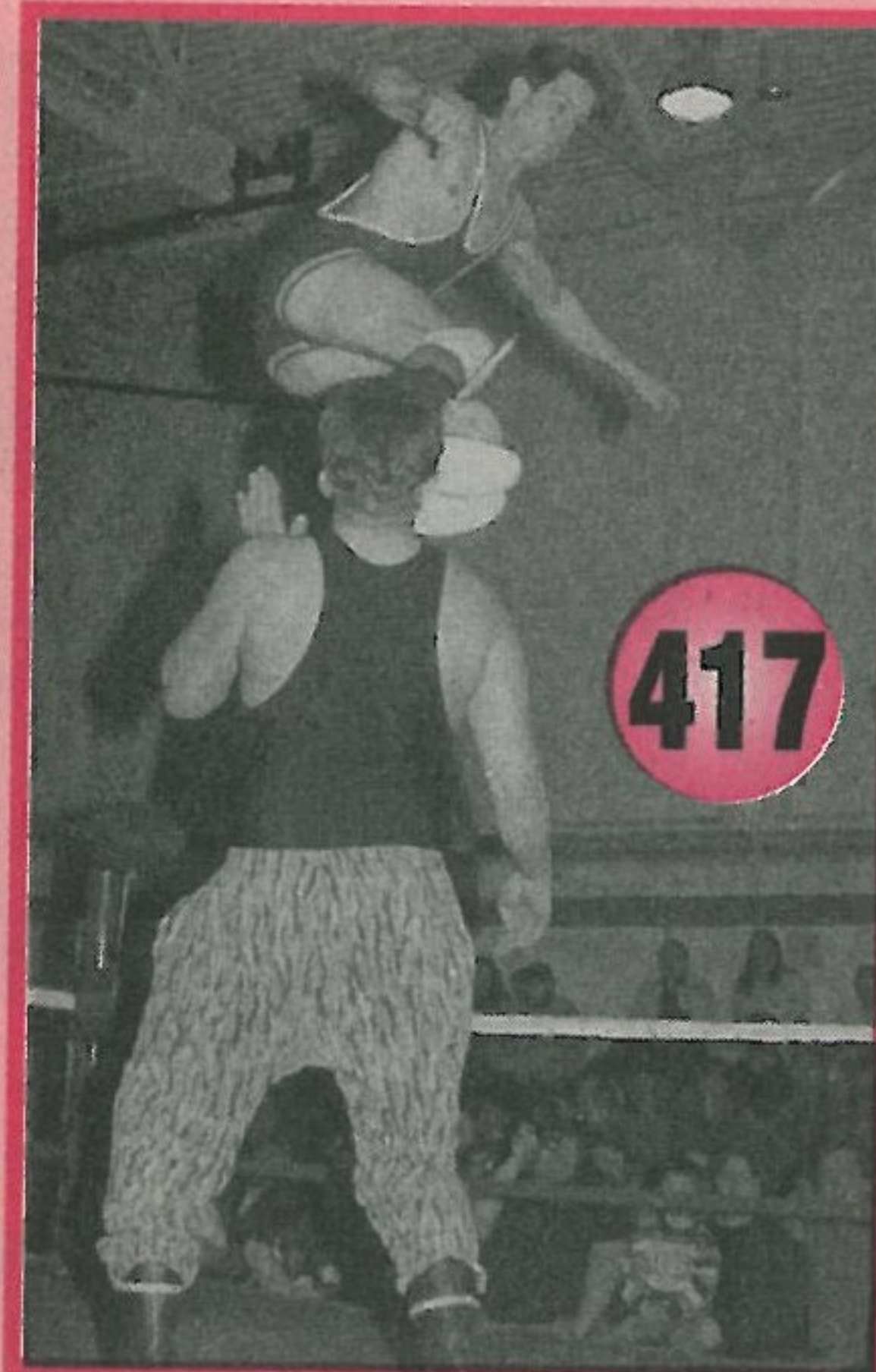
**412 BIG DADDY ADAMS** (5'9", 227, 2, 443) Toronto-born bruiser is out to prove the superiority of all things Canadian, badmouthing the U.S. at every turn ... A solid mat wrestler with improving aerial skills ... Too often distracted by the taunts of the fans ... Finishers include the "1812" top rope legdrop, the northern lights suplex, and the Oriental power bomb ... Holds the Cleveland Wrestling Alliance light heavyweight and TV titles.

**413 SHERIFF STEELE** (6'3", 260, 11, 440) Rulebreaking law man is a regular in Steel City Wrestling ... Has feuded with Koko B. Ware, Virgil (Vincent of the NWO), and T.C. Reynolds throughout Pennsylvania and Ohio ... Likes to use his size and weight advantage to wear down opponents.

**414 FREEDOM FIGHTER** (5'9", 205, 2, NL) Reigning Southern Championship Wrestling cruiserweight champion ... Favorite move is the DDT ... Enjoys the fans ... Wrestles on the SCW circuit, which includes South Carolina, North Carolina, and Georgia.

**415 AGGRESSOR FURY** (5'11", 202, 1, NL) Holds the International Championship Wrestling light-weight champion ... Wrestles primarily in North Carolina ... Is part of The Army of Aggression with Rage ... The team has held the PWA and NWC tag titles ... A good mat technician who is willing to risk injury to win a match ... Has feuded with Marc Ash, D.C. Queen, and The Condor over the past year ... Hates being called "Soldier Boy."





Dave Patera dropkicks Pat Shamrock

**416 BRIAN FURY** (5'10", 240, 3, NL) Now despised in the GWA and CWF after becoming a member of Hotseat Productions ... The Producer is his new manager ... Became the youngest Midwest heavyweight champion ever by defeating "Dirty T-ex" Tex Monroe ... In line for a match with GWA champion Crusher Kline ... The Producer carries a mirror to the ring so Fury can admire his beauty.

**417 DAVE PATERA** (5'10", 172, 4, NL) This self-proclaimed "Olympian" is a living parody of former Olympian Ken Patera ... Comes to the ring with one-pound weights to both show off his physique and use as a weapon against his opponents ... Managed by Barry Casino ... Solid technical wrestler who has beaten much larger opponents because of speed and agility.

**418 BILLY BART** (5'10", 247, 4, NL) Has reigned as World Championship Wrestling Outlaws champion for six months ... Wrestles in Tennessee, Kentucky,



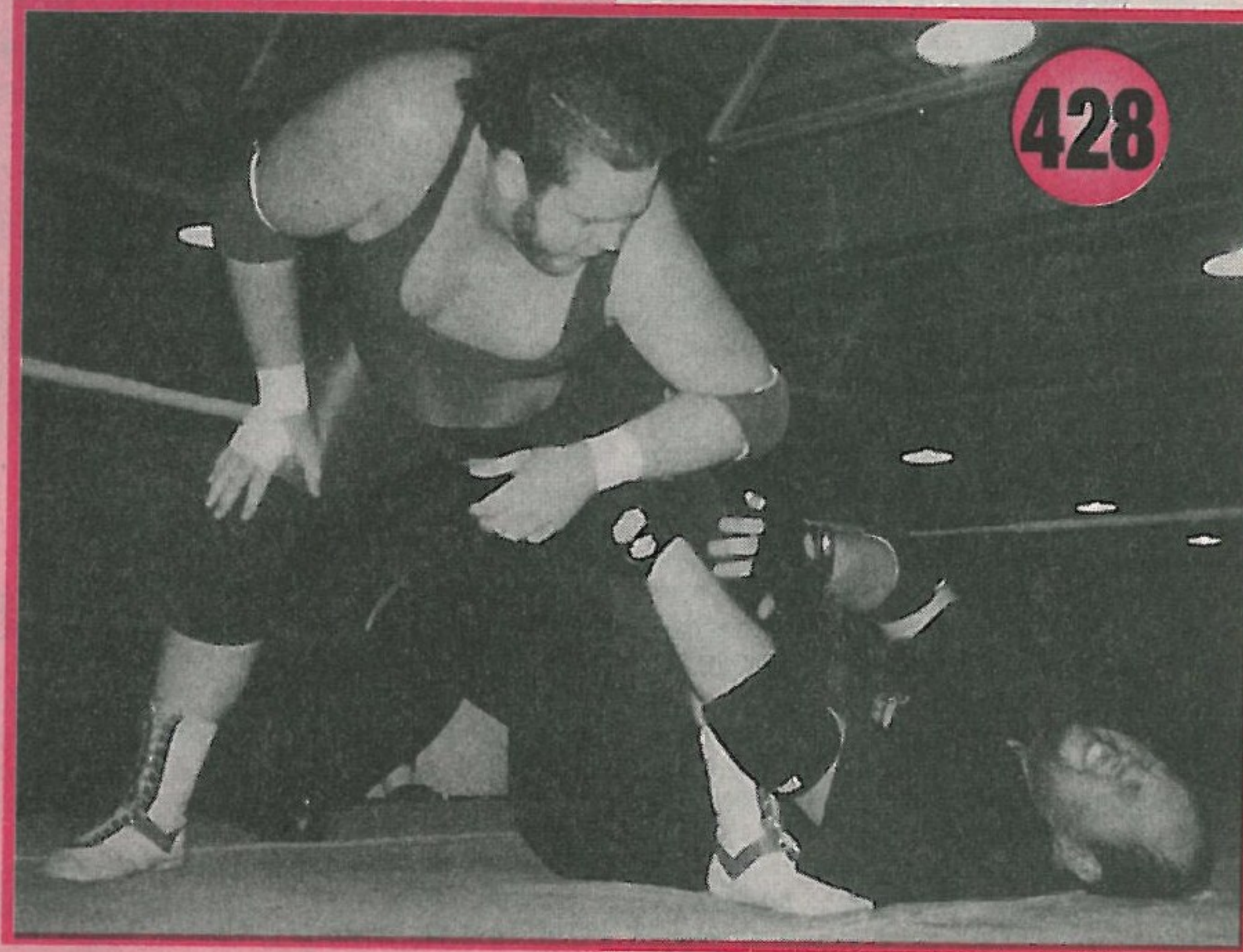
Billy Bart is reigning WCWO champ

Indiana, and Ohio ... A native of Kansas City, Kansas ... This rough and tumble cowboy can wrestle and brawl.

**419 MAVERICK BUCK** (6'1", 204, 2, NL) Holly Michaels manages Buck and his partner Chris, better known as The Mighty Mavericks ... Former New Dimension Wrestling tag team champion ... Routinely uses a branding iron on opponents ... Wrestles in the Mid-Atlantic.

**420 ROBERT ROMA** (5'11", 200, 4, 470) Former AIWF U.S. and lightweight champ ... Turned against fans and joined the Tennessee Violence Authority ... Is a rulebreaker but remains a good technical wrestler ... Favorite move is the "northern exposure."

**421 SWEET DREAMS** (6'1", 240, 2, NL) Has held the Professional Wrestling Federation tag team and Eastern States titles ... A former Championship



Johnny Reb ties up Iron Horse

Wrestling Federation heavyweight and TV champ ... His finishing moves are the frog splash and the one-and-a-half flip into a frog splash.

**422 JIMMY V** (5'8", 188, 4, NL) The current GWA light heavyweight champion ... Has also competed in Insane Championship Wrestling and Circle City Wrestling ... His 450-degree splash from the top rope has won many matches for him ... Is embroiled in a feud with top contender Steve Nixon ... High-flyer is popular with kids.

**423 TOWER OF DOOM** (6'4", 400, 4, NL) Former USWA champion was known as "Macho Warrior" Ric Hogan, but since leaving the USWA earlier this year has reverted back to being known as Tower of Doom ... Doom was the first-ever IWA heavyweight champion, winning an elimination tournament to earn the crown ... Came out on the short end of a feud with Doug Gilbert, which saw Gilbert win the belt ... Big man is hard to take off his feet. Devastating power bomb and legdrop.

**424 LORD CULT** (6'1", 248, 12, NL) Reigning East Coast Professional Wrestling champion ... Wrestles primarily in New England ... Favorite move is the legdrop from the top rope ... Intimidates opponents with his "black magic."

**425 JOEY MATTHEWS** (5'9", 199, 1, NL) "The Hardrock Kid" is improving with every passing day ... In just one year's time has wrestled in the NWA 2000, MEWF, IPWA, SCW, and USCW ... Trained by Jimmy Cicero, he has been feuding with fellow Cicero trainee Christian York for almost a year.

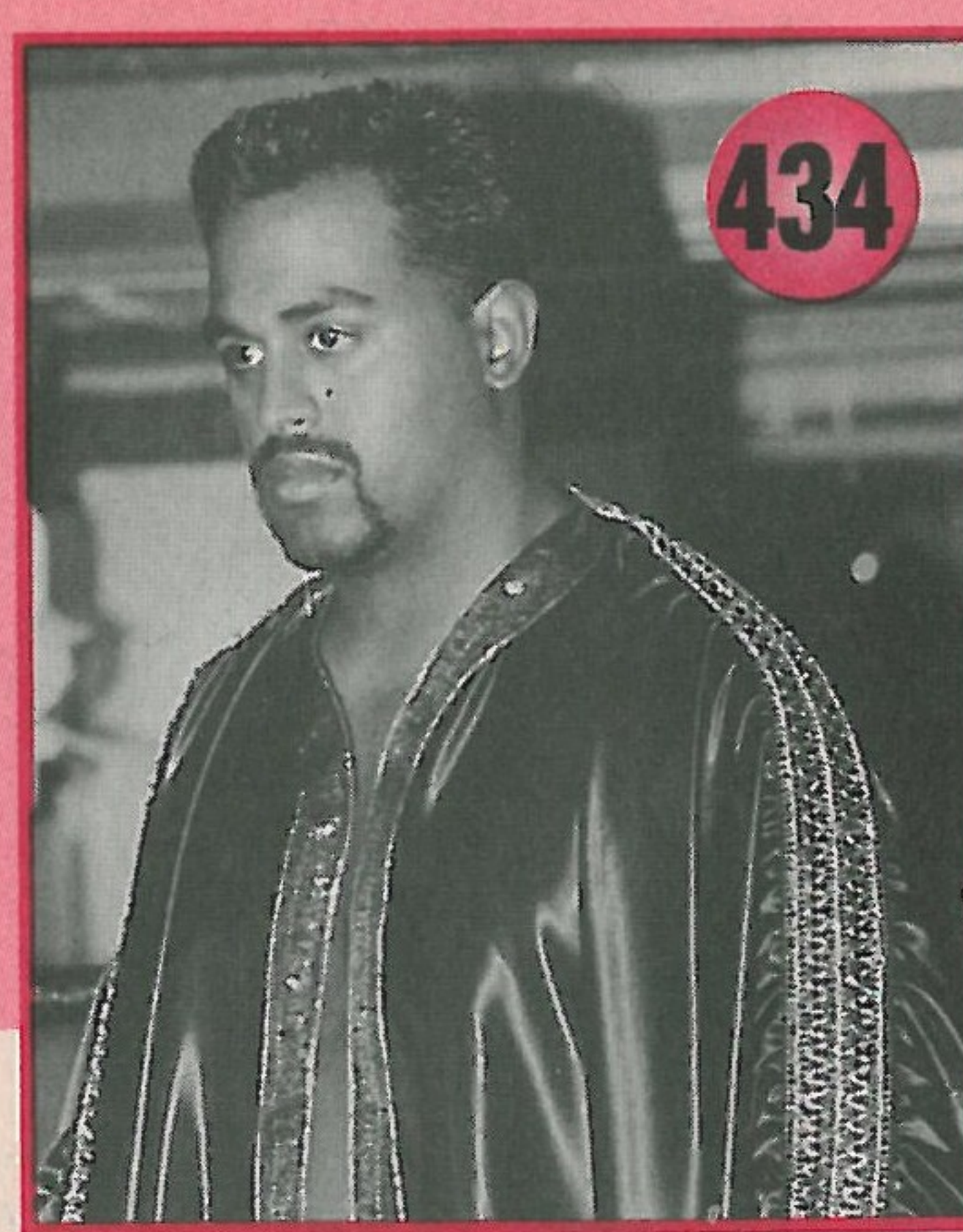
**426 JACK SPADE** (5'6", 190, 2, 466) Best-known for being part of Capital Punishment, along with partner Dale "The Cannon" Porter ... The duo has held the New Dimension Wrestling tag team title ... Wrestles in the Mid-Atlantic.

**427 CHAM-PAIN** (5'11", 206, 3, NL) Wrestles in the Championship Wrestling Federation, based in the Southeast ... Has wrestled in the WWF and PWF ... His two finishing maneuvers are the corkscrew (reverse DDT) and the suicide plancha (dive over the top rope).

**428 JOHNNY REB** (6', 271, 3, 490) Former AIWF heavyweight and tag champ ... Feuding with Major Havoc ... Loved by fans all over the South ... Finishing maneuver is the belly-to-belly suplex ... Wants a shot at AIWF champion Rick Deeze ... Claims his home is the Confederate States of America.

**429 SYL THE SADIST** (6'1", 236, 7, 410) Formerly known as Syl Dancer ... Hand was broken by The Sweet Boys in November ... Almost forced to retire ... This act of violence transformed him into Syl the Sadist ... Became leader of the Cult, which includes his valet, Mercedes, Yvan P. St.-Denis, El Diablero, and The Super Headhunters ... Won the NCW tag team title with his number one disciple, Yvan P. St.-Denis at ChallengeMania 5 ... Fittingly, they defeated their archenemies, The Sweet Boys.

**430 MIKE MYERS** (5'10", 175, 2, 496) An 18-year-old sensation ... Wrestled previously as a masked man, known as Guy Incognito ... Unmasked by Bobby Collins ... Nicknamed "Hyper-Active" ... Sidelined with a knee injury in fall 1996 ... Returned with a vengeance ... Scored victories over a variety of stars in the Canadian Wrestling Federation ... Recently became the Canadian Unified junior heavyweight champion.



Kahn is being heavily courted

**431 IRON SHEIK** (6', 290, 24, 382) Former WWF World heavyweight and tag team champion ... Manages The Sultan ... Now competing in the International Association of Wrestling, where he won the heavyweight title ... Also a three-time IAW tag champ with Brian Costello ... Later turned against Costello and now targets his IAW heavyweight title.

**432 MARC THE GRIZZLY** (6', 302, 2, NL) Finally came into his own this year by twice winning the Inter-City title in Northern Championship Wrestling ... Very popular with women and children because he gives away his trademark teddy bear before his matches ... Is NCW born and bred, but has competed in many promotions throughout Quebec and Ontario.

**433 AWESOME AL SAVAGE** (6'1", 237, 5, NL) Current UCW champion ... Wrestles in Tennessee, Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, Florida, and Georgia ... Favorite moves are the cross-bodyblock and dropkick from the top rope ... A colorful, arrogant, athletic wrestler who can adapt to most styles ... Former Mid-South champ ... Trained by Exotic Adrian Street.

**434 TIGER KAHN** (5'11", 235, 3, NL) Former Ultimate Championship Wrestling star is now plying his trade in PCW ... Mysterious rulebreaker hails from Calcutta, India ... Excellent mat technician uses quick moves to stun opponents ... Currently being courted by managers Judd the Stud and Barry Casino, but he has yet to align himself with either.

**435 SURGE** (6'1", 234, 3, NL) Once held the Championship Wrestling Federation title in the Southeast ... Wrestles in the WWF under his real name, Matt Hardy ... With partner Wolverine, known as The Hardy Boys ... Has also wrestled in the Professional Wrestling Federation, Smoky Mountain, and the Mid-Atlantic ... Signature move is the "Megahurtz" springboard moonsault.

**436 RONNIE VEGAS** (6'2", 243, 11, 462) Former All-Pro heavyweight champion relies heavily on ringside help from Playboy Johnny Lee ... Feuding with Bobo Brazil Jr. and Junkyard Dog Jr. ... Native of Las Vegas.

**437 GARY ROYAL** (5'10", 220, 18, NL) Veteran rulebreaker competes in Carolina Championship Wrestling and other Carolina independents ... Lost the CCW title to Rikki Nelson and the two are still feuding ... Defeated Denny Brown for the NWA junior heavyweight title in 1987.

**438 COWBOY CHRIS STARR** (6'3", 295, 11, NL) Came out of retirement upon finding out that his arch-enemy, Rob "The Bull" McBride, had returned to North Carolina ... Along with Jimmy Valiant, has tried to run McBride and his partner, Cody Gunn, out of the state ... His eyes are set on McBride's NWA Mid-Atlantic title.

**439 CHRISTIAN YORK** (5'10", 218, 1, NL) Known as "The Hunter" in southern independents because of his egotistical ways ... Is the son of Northeast independent legend Liver Lavaries, but moved to England when his parents split ... Has wrestled in a lot of southern independents including NWA 2000, IPWA, and SCW ... Top contender to the NWA light heavyweight title.

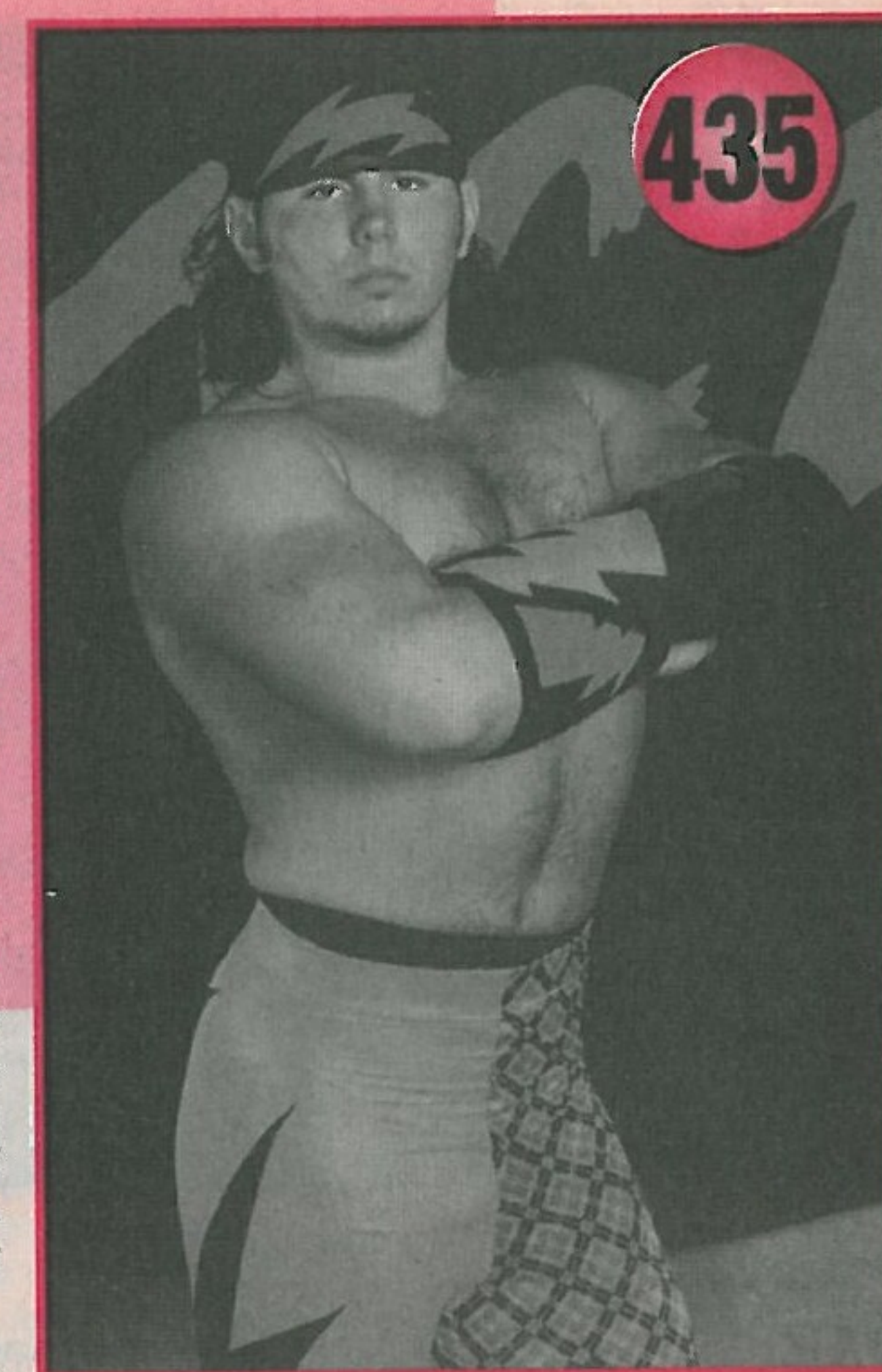
**440 PROF. EGON ECTON** (6', 225, 3, NL) One of the strangest competitors ever in Maryland's National Wrestling League ... Usually wrestles in his lab coat and has been known to dye his hair several different colors ... His regular partner is known as The Lab Experiment ... Toughest opponents have included John Rambo, Jimmy Cicero, and Morgus the Maniac.

**441 MORGUS THE MANIAC** (6'3", 233, 7, 390) Several state athletic commissions have banned Morgus due to his deteriorating mental condition ... Accompanied to the ring by a private doctor and nurse, who often have to restrain him in a straitjacket ... Is the MECW heavyweight champion ... His top challengers include John Rambo, Julio Sanchez, and Jimmy Cicero.

**442 J.T. ATLAS** (5'10", 210, 1, NL) Holds the Canadian Wrestling Federation tag team title with Vance Nevada ... Toured with Nevada in the southern U.S. ... The team also wrestled for Hardcore Wrestling ... At one point, Atlas and Nevada held the Canadian and Hardcore tag team titles simultaneously ... Was Canadian Unified junior heavyweight champ for three months.

**443 BRIAN BRUISE** (5'10", 215, 3, NL) Has held the Alternative Championship Wrestling tag team title six times, with both L.A. Wild One and Rick Link ... Has teamed with Rick Morton, Giant Ron Studd, and Jimmy Valiant ... High-flyer uses a devastating bulldog from the top rope ... Has defeated The Rock 'n' Roll Express several times with various partners.

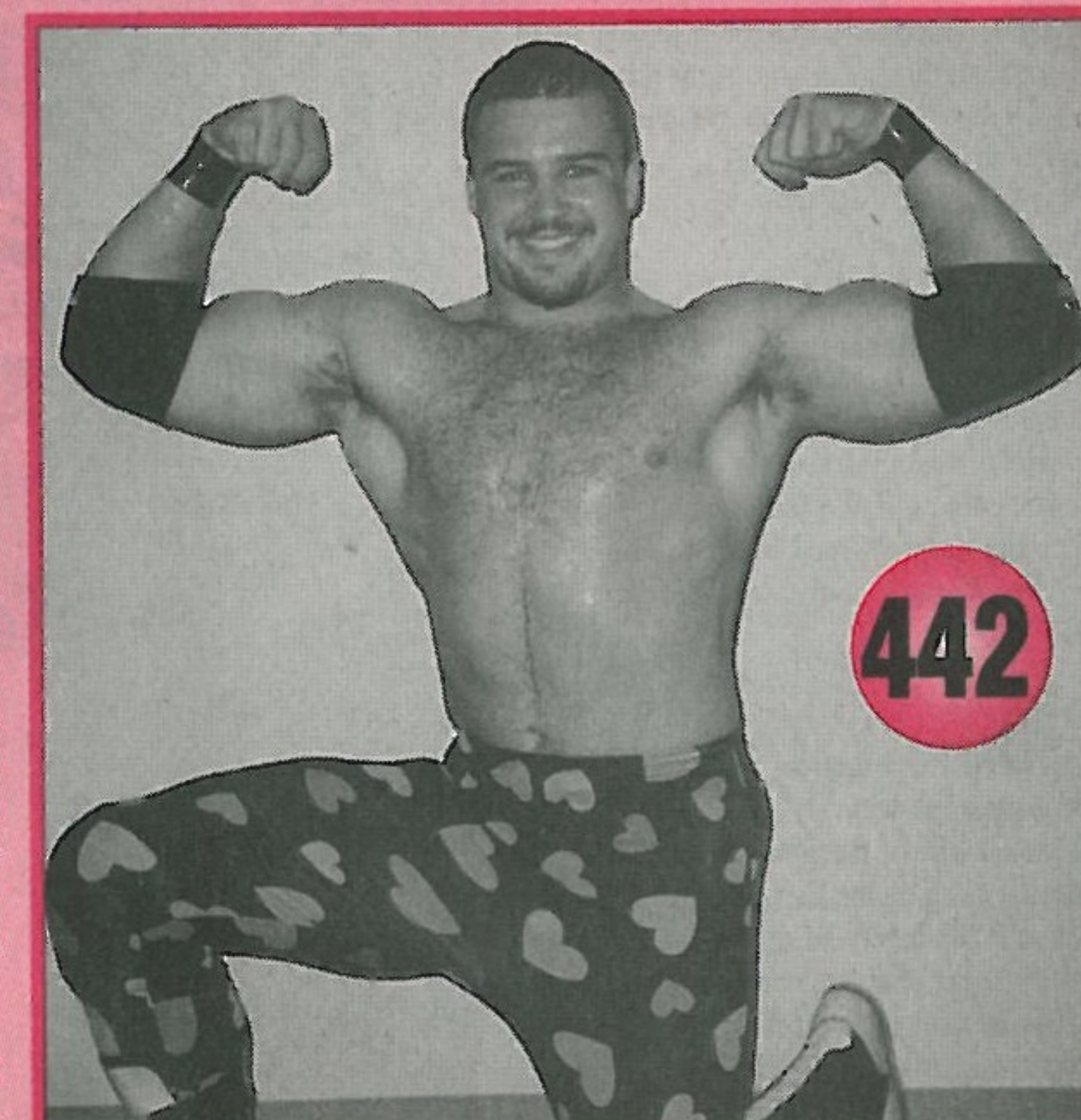
**444 WILDCAT JAMIE JACKSON** (5'11", 200, 2, NL) Three-time Renegade Wrestling Alliance champion who



Surge competes in the WWF as Matt Hardy

is known for his feuds with Steve Hart ... Waiting for a rematch against Hart to avenge a recent ladder match loss ... Engaged in a bitter rivalry with Stunning Sean, which began when Sean's valet joined Jackson ... Has wrestled in some Michigan independents ... Finishes opponents with his "supercat kick."

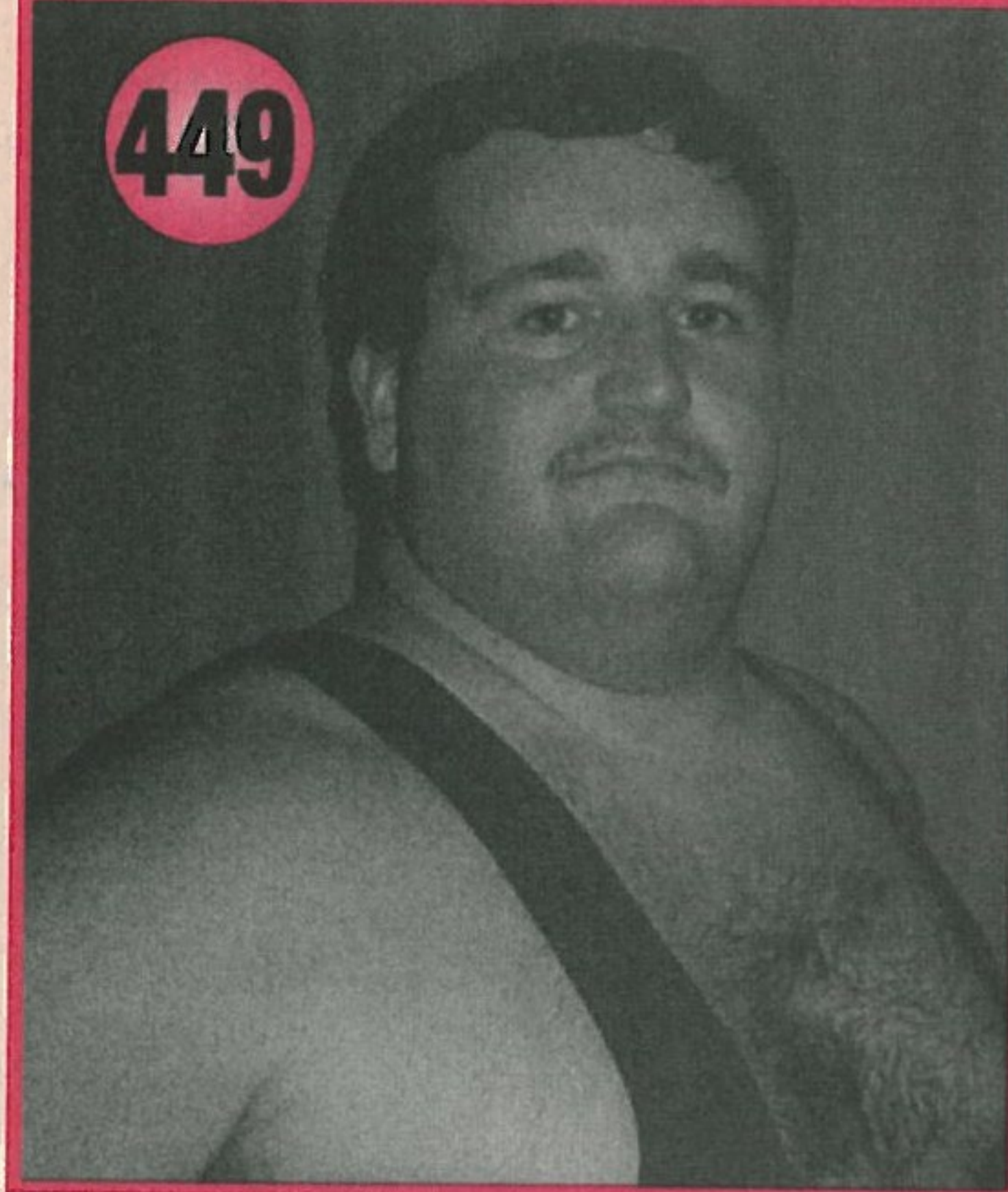
**445 STEVE SOUTHERN** (5'8", 191, 5, NL) Current holder of the Mid-South cruiserweight championship ... Wrestles in Texas, Louisiana, Georgia, Mississippi, Alabama, and Florida ... His specialty is a one-and-a-half top rope springboard moonsault ... Very well-versed in the Lucha Libre and Japanese styles ... Feuding with Hardtime Inc.



Atlas' strength is tag team wrestling



449



Kirby improves every year

**446 EDDIE BROWN** (6', 241, 1, NL) Nicknamed "Night Stick," this former policeman appears to the favorite to take home NWA 2000 Rookie of the Year honors ... A capable high-flyer, Brown almost upset Timber the Lumberjack in his debut in July ... Has since started teaming with Timber and entered the NWA 2000 tag team title tournament with him.

**447 VENOM** (6'4", 285, 2, NL) A former Championship Wrestling Federation titleholder ... Competes in the WWF under his real name, Jason Ahnrdt ... Has also wrestled in the PWF ... His finishers are the moonsault and the "Venom Bomb," a variation of Scott Hall's "Outsiders' Edge."

**448 RIKKI RHODES** (5'11", 310, 7, NL) Engaged in a long-running feud with "Mean" Marc Ash and Rob McBride that has spanned several federations ... Finishing move is the bulldog ... Considers himself a master of the bullrope match ... A top contender to the International Championship Wrestling heavy-weight and Mid-Atlantic titles ... Very popular in Myrtle Beach.

**449 KEVIN KIRBY** (5'11", 290, 8, 477) Decent mat wrestler with a few good power moves ... Competes in Carolina Championship Wrestling, the North American Wrestling Association, and other Carolina independents ... Had a rough match with New Japan superstar Masa Chono during a May 1997 WCW card ... Was number 500 in the 1995 "PWf 500."

**450 HARLEY LEWIS** (5'10", 233, 4, NL) One-half of the NWA U.S. tag team champions with his Misfit partner, Derek Domino ... One of the stranger individuals currently wrestling on the East Coast ... Has a wild streak and can barely be controlled at times ... Primarily a tag team wrestler, but has has some success in the singles ranks ... Suffered an embarrassing loss to Marty Jannetty in just four minutes in April at the NWA Eddie Gilbert Memorial card ... Mainly a brawler, he has trouble against good scientific wrestlers.

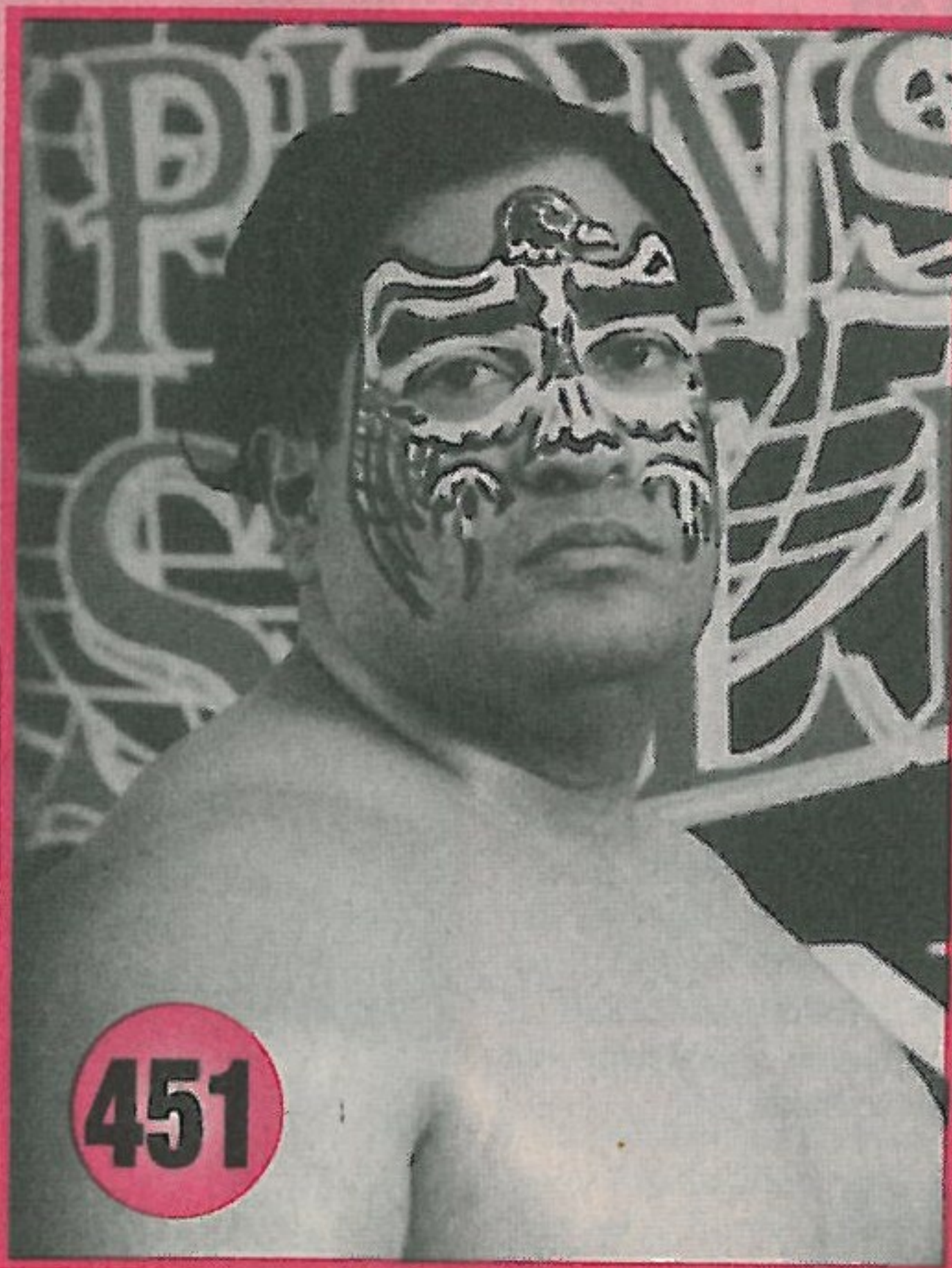
**451 FALCON COPERIS** (6', 250, 8, NL) Recently lost the UCW heavyweight title after a lengthy reign as champ ... Engaged in a bitter feud with Bruce Hart, Chris Chavis, and Jim Neidhart ... Can flatten opponents with his devastating clothesline.

**452 CANADIAN DESTROYER** (6', 230, 15, NL) Former BCW heavy-weight and TV champion ... Managed by The Gypsy ... Currently trains up-and-coming wrestlers ... Once known as The Canadian Patriot ... Hoping to get credit he says he deserves by winning gold in the Ontario Wrestling Alliance.

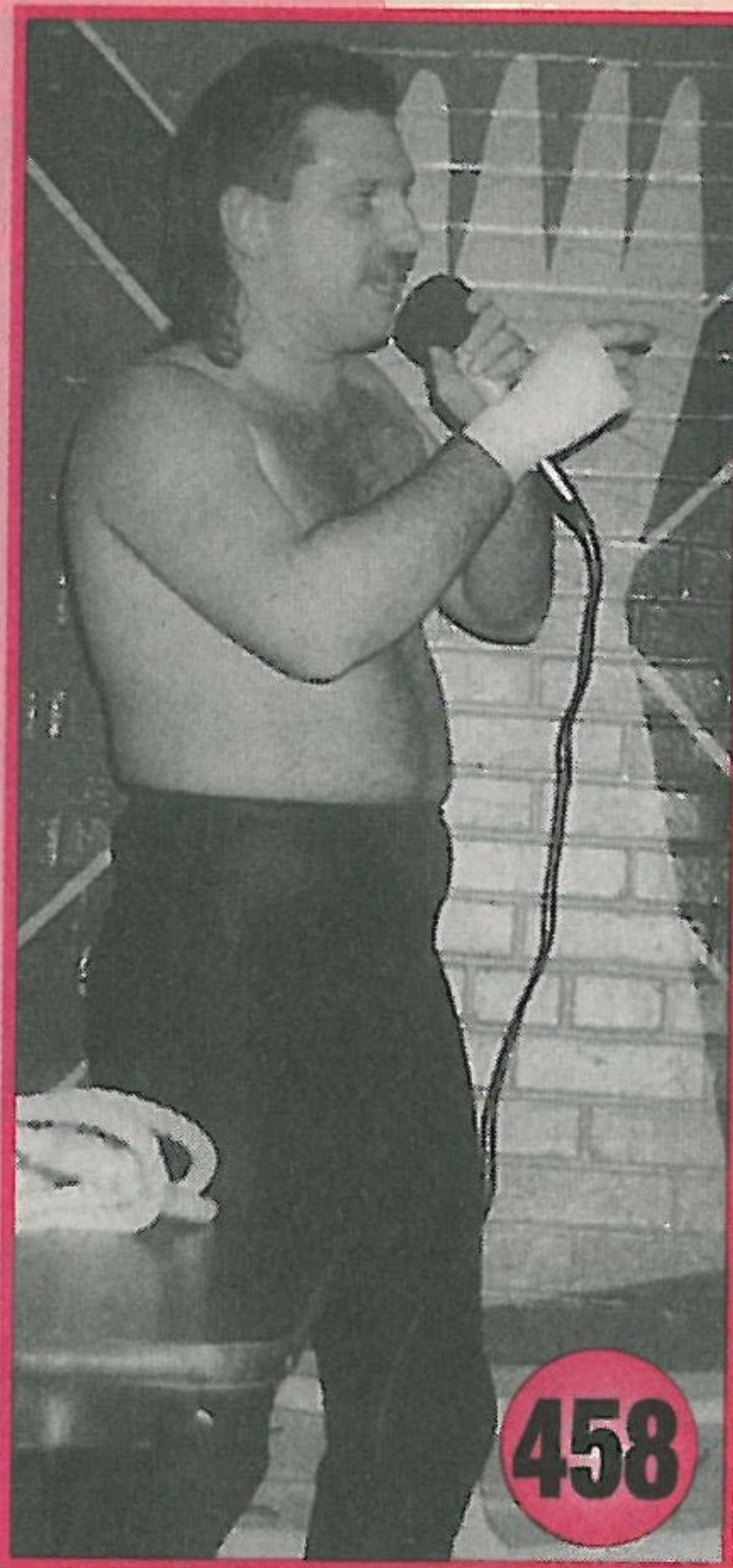
**453 THE DANGERMAN** (6'4", 325, 2, NL) Never hesitant to break the rules when he feels the situation warrants it ... Formerly known simply as Danger ... Was part of Damage Inc. with partner Hazard for almost two years and wrestled for several East Coast promotions ... Fired manager Kenny Casanova and became a fan favorite ... Is the New Breed Wrestling U.S. champion ... Casanova says the darker side of The Dangerman's personality still lurks inside him and that he will soon betray his fans.

**454 TEX MONROE** (6'1", 232, 3, NL) Native of Amarillo, Texas, competes in Michigan indies ... Is a former Midwest heavyweight champion, Insane Championship Wrestling streetfight tag team champion, and Hardcore Wrestling heavyweight champion ... Toughest opponent has been Malcolm Monroe ... Uses a spinning toe hold as his finisher ... Will also use a flaming branding iron as a weapon ... His feud with Ric Matrix has lasted nearly two years.

**455 JOHNNY DOLLAR** (6', 232, 11, NL) Held the Southern Championship Wrestling title from March to September 1996 ... Has wrestled in SCW for six years, competing in South Carolina, North Carolina, and Georgia ... Favorite move is the sunset flip.



Former UCW champion Falcon Coperis



Cody Gunn is a straight shooter

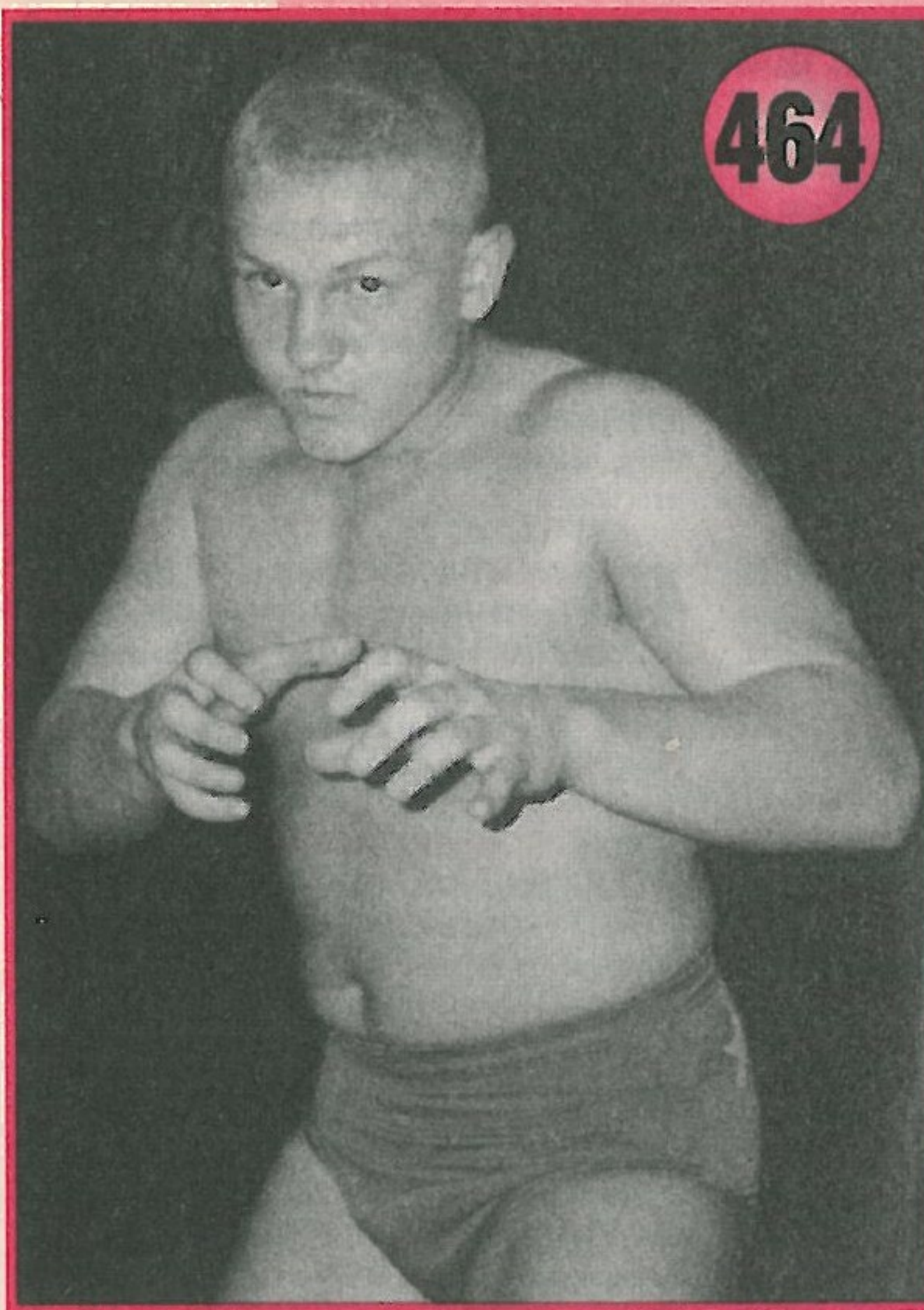
**456 BLAZE** (6'3", 230, 1, NL) Was trained by J.C. Ice and Wolfie D and made his professional debut in December 1996 ... Wrestled briefly in the USWA before finding a home in the IWA ... Since Blaze debuted in the IWA, Ian Rotten has befriended him and helped him ... Rotten and Blaze are frequent tag team partners and very popular with area fans ... Currently feuding with Bull Pain and Salvatore Sincere ... Cross bodyblock off the top rope is an effective finishing move for him.

**457 "PSYCHO" RIC MATRIX** (6'2", 255, 3, NL) Originally from Rochester, New York ... Toughest opponents have been Tex Monroe and Rhino Richards ... Wrestles mostly in Michigan ... Has held the Midwest heavyweight and Insane Championship Wrestling streetfight tag team titles.

**458 CODY GUNN** (6', 235, 4, NL) Teaming with Pretty Boy Floyd in Georgia ... Together they are known as The Pretty Gunns ... Feuding with Billy Knight and Billy Jack (Dixie Dynamite) ... Aiding former partner Rob "The Bull" McBride in his quest to run "Cowboy" Chris Starr out of North Carolina.

**459 SHANE CORTEZ** (6'1", 220, 5, NL) A former World Wrestling Empire TV champion, Cortez also held the WWE tag title with The Original Renegade ... Has wrestled in Oklahoma, Kansas, Arkansas, and Texas ... Finishing move is the cross bodyblock from the top rope ... High-flyer is the most popular wrestler in Maximum Championship Wrestling ... Although loved by the fans, he has a strange relationship with MCW's most hated wrestler, Devlin Blanchard.

464



Breyer Wellington's a strong mat wrestler

**460 YVAN P. ST-DENIS** (5'11", 297, 2, NL) Regular Northern Championship Wrestling competitor ... Since being fired by manager Floyd Broffman and joining The Cult, he has shown signs of mental instability ... Formerly known as Yvan the Terrible, he often assumes the identities of other wrestlers ... He has been Yvandust, Ice the Terrible, Yvan Michaels, and Hollywood the Terrible ... Teams with Syl the Sadist, leader of The Cult ... St-Denis and Syl defeated The Sweet Boys at Challengemania V for the NCW tag team title.

**461 PAT SHAMROCK** (5'9", 206, 3, NL) Ireland native is a former PCW junior heavyweight champion ... Now in a feud with the much-heavier Chef D.Z. Gillespie and manager Barry Casino's Camp ... Popularity has been on the upswing since his impressive showing in a series of matches with Lance Diamond.

**462 ROCKY JONES** (6', 220, 18, NL) Has wrestled for the WWF and NWA ... Former Americas champ ... Now wrestles in East Coast Professional Wrestling and other independents ... Uses a lot of savate kicks ... Looking for a partner to help him defeat The Executioners.

**463 GATOR** (6'4", 525, 2, NL) Brought to Pro Wrestling Xpress by Country Boy Chris as Cousin Gator ... Chris and Gator are collectively known as The Giant Hillbillies ... They're a popular team that relies on size and strength ... Gator and Chris won the PWX tag team title from Paul Atlas and Black Cat in September 1996 ... Lost the belts to Stevie Richards and The Blue Meanie in December ... Uses elbowdrops and splashes to set up his finisher, the "Gator Bomb."

**464 BREYER WELLINGTON** (5'10", 205, 1, NL) Teamed with Scott Storm to defeat Pierre Ouellette and "Kangaroo" Denny Kass in Lima, Ohio, in his pro debut ... Hails from Hamilton, Ontario ... Has a

respectable amateur background and can be tough to beat on the mat ... Also a decent high-flyer ... Trained by Denny Kass ... Anxious to compete against Japanese wrestlers ... Has feuded with Ouellette and Rhino Richards ... Has experience in ICW and the WWF.

**465 BOLO** (6'2", 375, 7, NL) Former Maximum Championship Wrestling heavyweight, World Wrestling Empire heavy-weight, and WWE TV champion ... One-half of The Guatemalan Assassins with Ocho Loco ... Finishing move is the tiger driver ... Has defeated or injured most of the competitors in MCW ... Former South American Pit Fighting champ ... Size and style remind some people a little of Abdullah the Butcher.

**466 CRUISER LEWIS** (6'1", 262, 8, NL) Held the Southern Championship Wrestling title in 1995 ... He and brother Snake won the SCW tag title in 1994 ... For the past four years, has been a regular on the SCW circuit, which includes parts of South Carolina, North Carolina, and Georgia.

**467 RACE RICHARDS** (5'10", 230, 3, NL) Wrestles for numerous East Coast independents, including PCW ... Has taken veteran wrestler Johnny Graham to the limit on several cards in Pennsylvania and Virginia ... Began wrestling as a rulebreaker, but changed his ways after a falling-out with manager Judd the Stud.

**468 MAJOR AGONY** (6'1", 330, 2, NL) Formed Death Row with partner Col. Payne in 1995 ... Death Row was involved in a three-month feud with Brad and Bart Batten ... Began wrestling for Pro Wrestling Xpress in August 1996, and he and Payne renamed themselves The Xtreme Militia ... Xtreme Militia was hated during their feud with The Giant Hillbillies, but they wrestled as fan favorites during a feud with The Gentleman's Club ... Wrestled The Iron Sheik in September ... Finishing maneuver is the Asai moonsault.

**469 DOUG FLEX** (6'2", 290, 8, NL) After suffering a severe knee injury several years ago, Flex made a successful return last year ... Along with Brick Bronsky and manager G.Q. Bronsky, Flex is one-third of The Brat Pack in Int'l Pro Wrestling.

**470 WILLIE CLAY SR.** (5'10", 225, 10, NL) Is the most popular wrestler in Carolina Championship Wrestling ... Formed a moderately successful tag team with Madd Maxx ... Has always defended the Carolinas against rulebreakers.

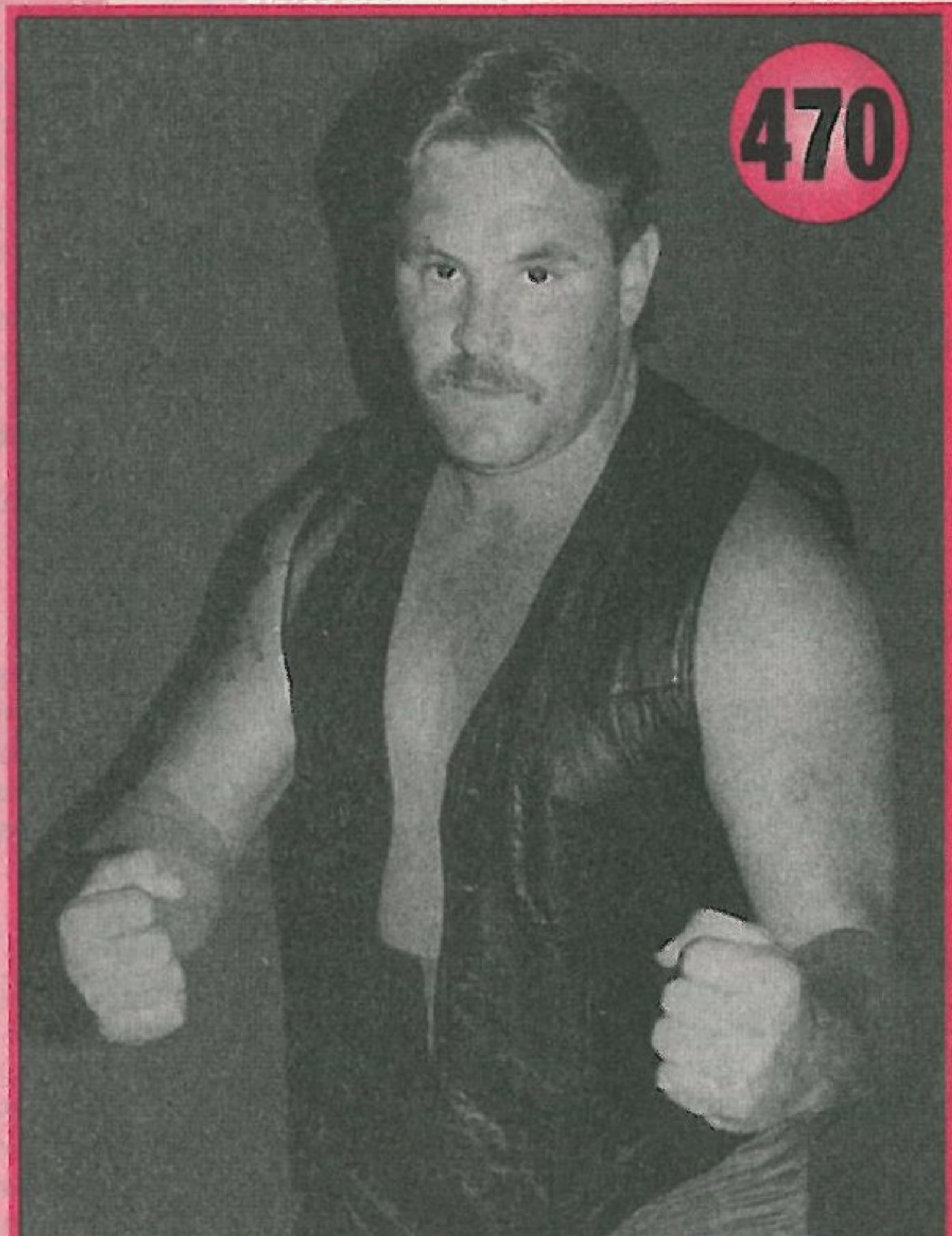
**471 ROLLIN' HARD** (5'9", 230, 1, NL) Another regular figure in the Louisville-based IWA ... Is announced as being from "the hood of Louisville, Kentucky" ... Hated by most IWA fans ... Has had a long-running feud with the popular Gator McAllister ... Tough, dirty wrestler who likes to whip opponents into the ropes and wipe them out with a butt bump when they rebound back to him ... Ring music consists of a mix of the *Fat Albert*, *Good Times*, and *Sanford And Son* themes.

**472 "SWEET" STEVE HART** (5'8", 150, 2, NL) Considers himself "the franchise" of the Renegade Wrestling Alliance ... Lost the RWA title to Austin Shaw ... Has had recent feuds with Gord Rease and Diamond Dan O ... Still a top contender to the RWA title ... Has wrestled in Michigan independents ... Good technical wrestler with a knack for finding his opponents' weaknesses.

**473 THE ORIGINAL RENEGADE** (6'1", 232, 6, NL) Has held the World Wrestling Empire heavyweight and TV titles ... Former Central States champion ... Once held the WWE tag title with Shane Cortez ... His finisher is the Renegade deathlock ... Always among the most hated men in Maximum Championship Wrestling's ... Often uses foreign objects.

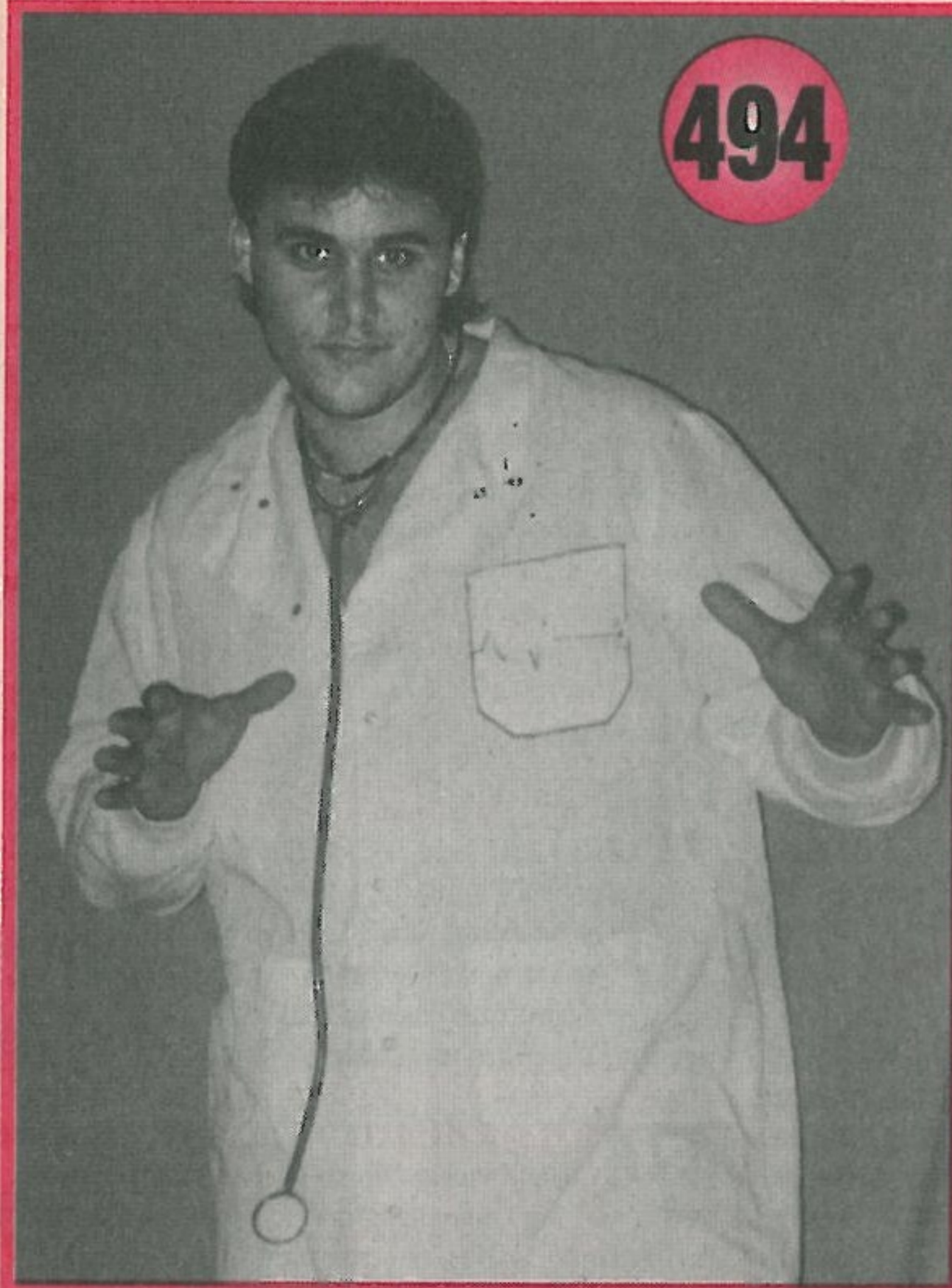
**474 WILD CHILD** (6', 220, 4, NL) Former Championship Wrestling Federation cruiser-weight and tag team champion ... Feuding with High Performance ... Has also wrestled in the PWF ... A mainstay of North Carolina wrestling ... His most effective moves are the bulldog from the top rope and the piledriver.

**475 JACK STUD** (6', 225, 5, NL) "Beautiful" Jack has held the AIWA title in California since December 1995 ... Defeated Cowboy Mark Kissell for the belt ... Also a former holder of the South Pacific and the now-defunct Southern California title ... Once defended his title against Japan's Ultraman Robin ... Managed by the lovely Luscious Laura from Argentina.



Clay lets no one mess with the Carolinas





This doctor only prescribes pain

**476 KODIAK BEAR** (6'2", 351, 7, NL) Former East Coast Professional Wrestling champion ... Has wrestled up and down the East Coast ... Favorite hold is the "bear trap" ... Is hated wherever he wrestles ... Has been known to cause fan riots ... Trusted partner is Damien Stone ... Has had many streetfights with Bodyguard for Hire.

**477 THE HUN** (5'9", 282, 28, NL) Hails from Guggenheim, Germany ... Recently returned to mat action after spending four years as manager of Motor City Wrestling champion "Punisher" Rock Stevens ... Trained by Kurt Von Hess ... Briefly retired in 1972 after The Sheik burned him with a fireball.

**478 "BADMAN" JIMMY KANE** (6'4", 285, 5, NL) Has never held a title and claims he never wants one ... Has wrestled in California, Kansas, Texas, Oklahoma, and Arkansas ... His finishing move is a reverse DDT ... Managed by "Atomic Playboy" Steve Hartley in Maximum Championship Wrestling ... Engaged in a feud with the popular Rocco Valentino ... Known as a psychotic loner who likes to play mind games ... Certified schizophrenic.

**479 SECTION 8** (5'11", 220, 10, NL) First wrestler to hold all three titles in Rage in the Cage Wrestling ... Is the current heavyweight champion ... Finisher is the "corkscrew belly-buster" from the top rope or the top of a cage ... Managed by Dr. Vindicator.

**480 SON OF SATAN II** (6'2", 247, 12, NL) Is a smaller version of his brother, Son of Satan I ... Wants a shot at the Bad Boys of Wrestling tag title ... Targets BBOW's most popular wrestlers ... Experienced veteran who has wrestled throughout the country.

**481 DEATHWISH** (6'1", 228, 4, 497) Appropriate name ... His bouts have included flaming tables and barbed wire gloves ... Wields a kendo stick ... As Death Dealer, wrestled under the same hood and

name as his father ... Frequent canings of Motor City Wrestling announcer Coach Kurt earned him a suspension in late-1996.

**482 NAVAJO KID** (6'1", 254, 6, NL) Is the Rage in the Cage Wrestling Heritage champion ... Competes regularly for the National Wrestling Council in North Carolina ... Also competes in Arizona ... Held the RCW heavyweight title ... Utilizes power bomb.

**483 PAUL ATLAS** (5'10", 215, 7, NL) Has wrestled top wrestlers such as Larry Winters, Sheriff Steele, and Virgil (Vincent) ... A mainstay in Pro Wrestling Express ... Has held the PWX tag title twice in the past year ... Remained a major contender for the heavyweight belt ... Once pinned Stevie Richards ... Engaged in a series of classic encounters with North American champion Lou Marconi ... Combines strength and speed with an excellent aerial attack ... Superkick is his finisher.

**484 SUPREME** (5'10", 263, 2, NL) Co-holds ISW tag team title as Ultimate Chaotix with Kid Kaos ... One of the most intimidating wrestlers on the West Coast ... Known for his hardcore style, his bloody

matches, and for moonsaulting onto tables ... Has wrestled his partner, Kid Kaos, in several exciting matches ... Can wrestle in American, Japanese, and Lucha Libre styles ... Also competes in Mexico.

**485 TECH 9** (6'1", 215, 2, NL) Won AIWA tag team title with Crazy 1 in August 1996 ... Tech 9 and Crazy 1 are known as Danabahoodz (The Neighborhoods) ... Based in California ... Distinct style combines aerial ability with ruggedness ... Has teamed and feuded with AIWA champion Jack Stud.

**486 WICHITA WILLIE** (5'10", 225, 10, NL) Has held many light heavyweight titles ... Wrestles throughout the Southwest, but primarily for Texas All-Star Wrestling ... A two-time former Texas cruiserweight champ ... Extremely popular with the fans.

**487 SON OF SATAN I** (6'2", 397, 31, NL) A hell-raiser who recently entered Bad Boys of Wrestling ... His strength is his greatest asset ... Teams with his brother, Son of Satan II ... His vast experience overwhelms younger opponents.

**488 SUPERKEY I** (5'7", 191, 5, 458) Along with Superkey #2, beat Hot Paradise for the MCW tag title in April 1996 ... Hot Paradise regained the belts the next night ... Won the contract of Miss Jeanne by defeating White Lightning in a mask vs. manager match in 1992 ... Impressed fans enough to win the MCW Rookie of the Year Award that year.

**489 LARRY DESTINY** (6'3", 240, 1, NL) Very well-known in Ontario, Michigan, and Ohio independents ... Calls favorite move "Destiny Ridge," his version of the top rope hurricanrana ... Rookie has won BCW TV title and is gunning for the Ontario Wrestling Alliance heavyweight title.

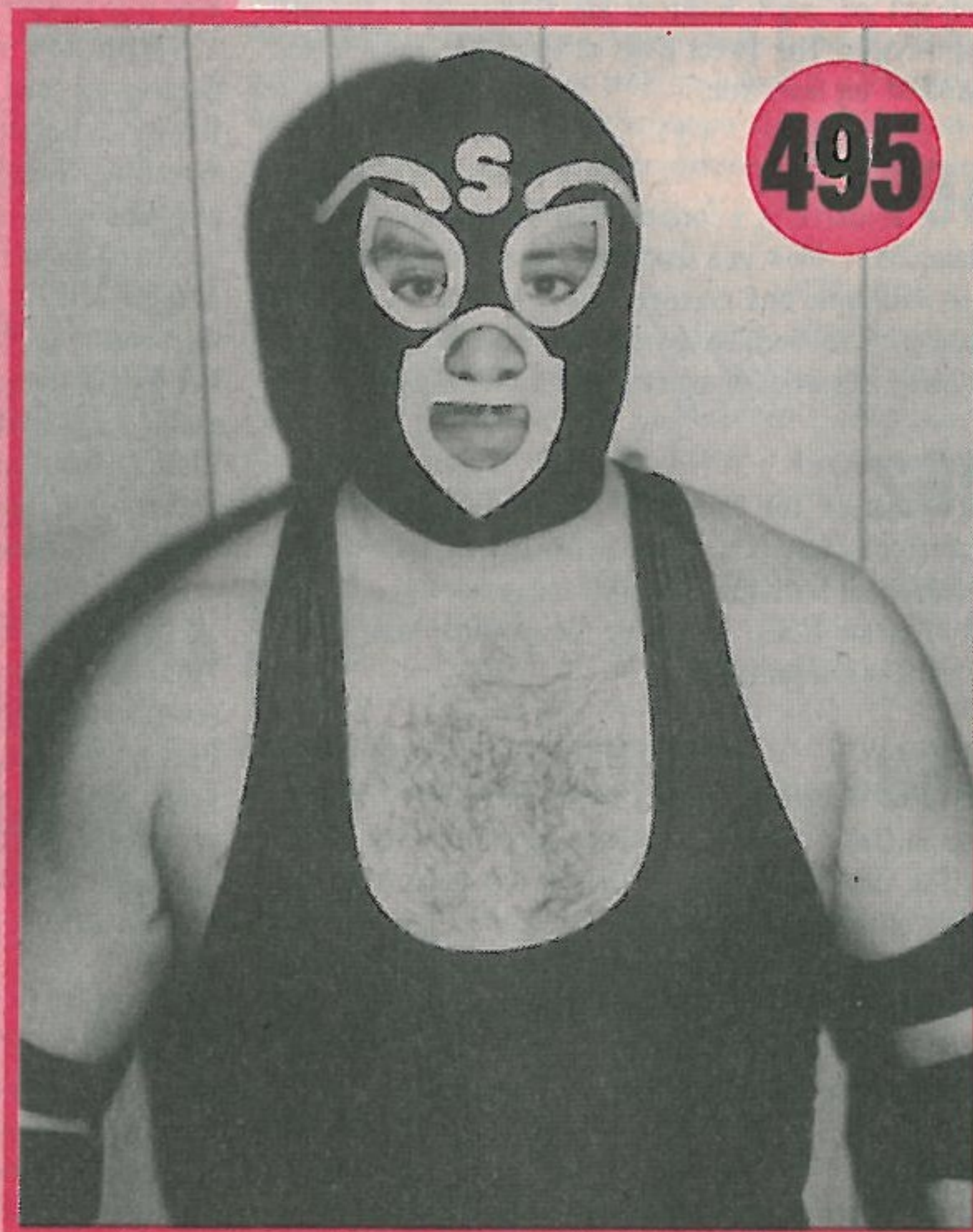
**490 J.P. HOGG** (6'3", 250, 9, NL) This scufflin' hillbilly has made Bad Boys of Wrestling his home ... Atomic splash from the top rope usually puts his foes down for the three-count ... Along with J.D. Hogg, defeated The Sons of Satan for the BBOW tag team title.

**491 JIMMY D. RANGED** (5'9", 187, 5, NL) Formerly known as Joel Hartgood in ECW ... Has come into his own in Ultimate Championship Wrestling ... Is after the UCW's light heavyweight crown ... A member of Guillotine LeGrande's Foreign Legion ... A fierce competitor with an innovative style.

**492 SHANE SHADOWS** (6'2", 229, 5, NL) Competes for Championship Pro Wrestling (CPW) ... Feuding with former partner Julio Sanchez ... Toughest opponents include Chris Candido and "Luscious" Johnny Graham.

**493 BIG E. SLEAZE** (6'1", 227, 2, NL) Wears clown makeup, but doesn't wear a clown's outfit to the ring ... Likes to break the rules and is especially fond of trying to cut off his opponents' air supply by choking them on the ropes ... Wrestles on East Coast independent promotions and is a regular in the NWL in Hagerstown, Maryland ... A top contender for John Rambo's NWL heavyweight title ... Strange appearance tends to scare children.

**494 DR. HURTZ** (6'2", 260, 2, NL) Holds the Empire Wrestling Alliance title ... Finishing moves include the "flatliner power bomb" and the "DOA" splash from the top rope ... Also uses the "check-up from neck-up sleeper" ... Managed by the lovely nurse, Fifi ... Wrestles in New Jersey and Pennsylvania.



This Shadow's Lucha moves make him hard to see

**495 THE SHADOW** (5'9", 217, 8, NL) Former Texas All-Star Wrestling cruiserweight champ ... Very adept at U.S. and lucha libre styles ... Hailing from Mexico City, The Shadow wrestles in his home country as often as his schedule permits ... A talented high-flyer.

**496 SEMINOLE WARRIOR** (6', 232, 2, NL) Young up-and-comer is making headway in Bad Boys of Wrestling ... Speed and precision maneuvers brings the crowd to its feet at least once during most matches ... Years for better competition.

**497 INDIANA KIDD JR.** (6'1", 207, 2, NL) A 19-year-old sensation in World Championship Wrestling Outlaws and the International Wrestling Federation ... Holds the WCWO and IWF lightweight titles ... Voted Rookie of the Year by Indiana fans in 1996 ... Signature move is the superkick ... Wrestles in Kentucky, Tennessee, Indiana, and Ohio.

**498 WAYNE WOO** (6'3", 237, 5, NL) Former Empire Wrestling Alliance North American and Continental champ ... Wrestles in New York, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania ... Finishing hold is the Boston crab ... Has teamed with Magic.

**499 DESPERADO** (6'4", 246, 17, NL) Along with Big Jake Mulligan, held the Southern Championship Wrestling tag title in 1996 ... Held the heavyweight title in 1995 ... Favorite move is the bulldog ... Has wrestled in SCW for past eight years, mostly in South Carolina, North Carolina, and Georgia.

**500 JOE RULES** (5'11", 246, 2, NL) Contends to be the greatest wrestler in all of professional wrestling ... Upsets opponents and fans before matches by grabbing the microphone and bragging about his skills ... After his championship caliber ranting, though, things tend to go downhill ... Underdog status helps him pull off a win when it seems least likely.



Will Joe ever rule?

# FAREWELL TO THE

# 500

The list of active wrestlers is always changing. Since last year's "PWI 500" came out, some wrestlers have migrated to different federations or changed their names. Others are now injured, inactive, or retired. Still others have been dropped from this year's survey for other reasons.

Keys are as follows: (DL) disabled list; (I) inactive; (NC) name change; (NR) not rated; (R) retired.

2 Cold Scorpio (NC)	Tony Falk (NR)
Action Jackson (NR)	Fatu (NC)
Chris Adams (NR)	Manny Fernandez (NR)
Donn E. Allen (NR)	Frank Finnegan (NR)
Alexander the Magnificent (DL)	Firefighter Adrian (NR)
Arn Anderson (I)	Adam Flash (NR)
Jackie Anderson (NR)	Timothy Flowers (NR)
Mad Max Anthony (NC)	Eric Freedom (NR)
Bob Armstrong (NR)	Bobby Fulton (NR)
Scott Armstrong (NR)	Jackie Fulton (NR)
Steve Armstrong (NR)	Skull Ganz (NR)
Baby Huey (NR)	The Gargoyle (NR)
Bob Backlund (NR)	Rick Garren (NR)
Don Bass (NR)	Jeff Gaylord (NR)
Battle Monkey (NR)	The General (NR)
Bruce Beaudine (NR)	The Giant Warrior (NR)
Bruiser Bedlam (NR)	Ray Gonzales (NR)
Brutus Beefcake (NR)	Terry Gordy (NR)
Phil Belanger (NR)	Jerry Grey (NR)
Vinnie Biondo (R)	Johnny Gunn (NC)
Black Bear (NR)	Hakushi (NC)
Black Knight (NR)	Jack Hammer (NR)
Blacktop Bully (NR)	Keith Hart (NR)
Frank Blues (NR)	The Hater (NR)
Adam Bomb (NC)	Clay Hatfield (NR)
Bastian Booger (NR)	J.D. Hogg (NR)
Danie Brits (NR)	J.R. Hogg (NR)
El Bronco (NR)	Hollywood (NR)
Brickhouse Brown (NR)	Hombre De Oro (NR)
Bruiser Mastino (NR)	Horace the Psychopath (NR)
Bunkhouse Buck (NR)	Tim Horner (NR)
Canadian Bad Boy (NR)	Barry Horowitz (NR)
Carolina Dreamer (NR)	Ashley Hudson (NR)
Don Carson (NR)	Felix Hutton (NR)
Cat Burglar (NR)	Guy Incognito (NR)
Romeo Catino (R)	Dallas James (NR)
Bam Bam Coalsion (NR)	Jammer (NR)
Kid Collins (NR)	J.B. Jammer (NR)
Michael Collins (NR)	Kenny Jay (NR)
Chuck Colt (NR)	Eight-Ball Jones (NR)
Rick Connors (NR)	Jumpin' Jimmy (NR)
Calavera Cortez (NR)	Rick Justice (NR)
Cremator (NR)	Geza Kalman Jr. (NR)
Maxx Crimson (NR)	King Kaluha (NR)
Cruel Connection II (NR)	Kamala (NR)
Bo Dacious (NR)	Kamala II (NR)
Dark Hawk (NR)	Koji Katao (NR)
Dark Star (NR)	Flex Kavana (NC)
Dave Daulton (NR)	Dave Keller (NR)
Death Dealer (NC)	The Kid (NC)
Death Row #3260 (NR)	Rex King (NR)
Steven Debbes (NR)	Crusher Kline (NR)
Jim Del Ray (NR)	Dan Kroffat (NC)
Demon Hellstorm (NR)	Kurasawa (NR)
Jimmy Deo (NR)	Yoshi Kwan (NR)
Tony DeVito (NR)	Killer Kyle (NR)
El Diablo (NR)	Sgt. Greg Lake (NR)
Diamond Dan (NR)	Lenny Lane (NR)
Doink the Clown (NR)	Benson Lee (NR)
Yogi Donovan (NR)	Bobby Lee (NR)
Bullman Downs (NR)	Jimie Lee (NR)
Mickey Doyle (R)	Stan Lee (NR)
Duke Droese (NR)	Woody Lee (NR)
Dances With Dudley (NR)	Mike Legacy (NR)
Chris Evans (NR)	La Ley (NR)
Guido Falcone (NR)	Liberty (NR)

Johnny Lightning (NR)  
J.T. Lightning (NR)  
Jeff Lindberg (NR)  
Steve Lombardi (NR)  
Lumberin' Jack (NR)  
Peter Maivia Jr. (NR)  
El Mascarado (NR)  
Masked Maniac (NR)  
Bruiser Mastino (I)  
Ron McClarity (NR)  
Wahoo McDaniel (R)  
Mo (NR)  
Aldo Montoya (NC)  
Moondog Spike (NR)  
Moondog Spot (NR)  
Thunder Morgan (NR)  
Movie Star Mike (NR)  
Hack Myers (NR)  
Quinn Nash (NR)  
Vance Nevada (NR)  
The New One Man Gang (NR)  
The Nightbreed (NR)  
Night Rider (NR)  
Osamu Nishimura (NR)  
Notorious Norm (NR)  
O-Dog (NR)  
Mad Dog O'Malley (NR)  
Bob Orton Jr. (NR)  
Maxx Paine (NR)  
Charlie Parker (NR)  
Rod Price (NR)  
Tony Prichard (NR)  
Prince of Polyester (NR)  
Max Profit (NR)  
Quicksilver (NR)  
Johnny Reb (NR)  
The Rebel (NR)  
Death Renegade (NR)  
T. Rex (NR)  
T.C. Reynolds (NR)  
Terry Richards (NR)  
Lightning Rod (NR)  
Riccio Rodriguez (NR)  
Tommy Rogers (NR)  
Russian Assassin II (NR)  
E.Z. Ryder (NR)  
Samu (NR)  
Ricky Santana (NR)  
Bart Sawyer (NR)  
Jimmy Sharpe (NR)  
Abbudah Singh (NC)  
Skip (NC)  
Dick Slater (NR)  
Bugsy Sluggiano (NR)  
J.T. Smith (NR)  
Smoky Mt. Massacre (NC)  
Sonny C (NR)  
Jack Spade (NR)  
Steve Stakk (NR)  
Jake Steele (NR)  
Sting (I)  
Scotty Summers (NR)  
Superslayer (NR)  
Pat Tanaka (NR)  
Tatanka (NC)  
John Tenta (NR)  
Jimmie Torture (NR)  
J.B. Trask (NR)  
The Ultimate Warrior (I)  
Vampire Warrior (NR)  
Virgil (NC)  
Nikolai Volkoff (NR)  
Johnny Walker (NR)  
Koko B. Ware (NR)  
Shane Wild (NR)  
Issac Yankem (NC)  
Yokozuna (I)  
Uncle Zebakiah (NC)  
Paul Zine (NR)  
Zip (NC/NL)